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OnOurBacks

ADVENTURES IN LESBIAN SEX

The SEX ONLINE Issue

MORE THAN FRIENDSTER
How We're Really Cruising Cyberspace

5 WEB MAVENS Want to Sex You Up

ONCE UPON A FEMME
Editor Trish Kelly Puts Out More Than A New Book

BOI SCOUT JAMBOREE
Huck and Tank are ALWAYS PREPARED

Annie Sprinkle and Beth Stephens
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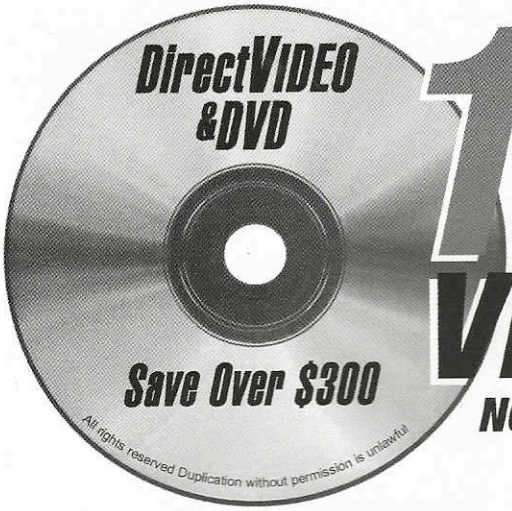

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Trish, photography by David Ellingsen

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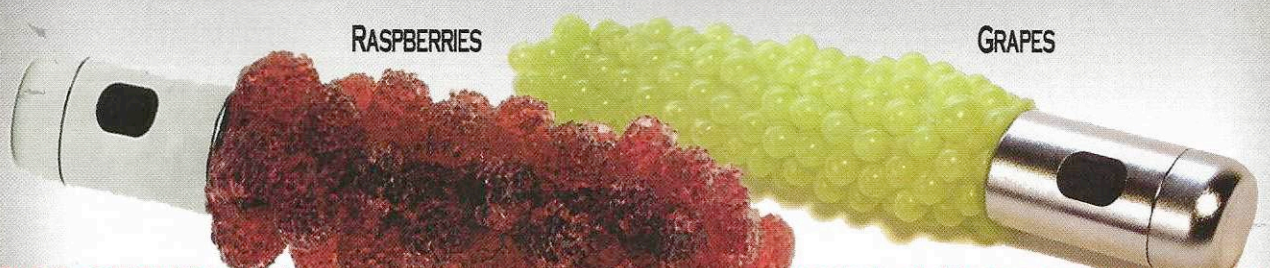

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Contributors

Molly DeCoudreaux lives, works, and rides her bike in San Francisco. She was majoring in women's studies before she received a degree in photography from the San Francisco Art Institute. In addition to shooting for *On Our Backs,* she also does fashion spreads and covers for *Girlfriends* and covers for *Bay Area Business Woman* and shows her work in local galleries and cafés. When not shooting porn or fashion, Molly works on personal projects on drag queens, teenagers, and dress-up. She enjoys thinking about beauty, glamour, gender, and identity.

Lori L. Lake has published five novels and a book of short stories and edited the 2005 Lammy finalist *The Milk of Human Kindness: Lesbian Authors Write about Mothers and Daughters.* She teaches queer-fiction writing at the Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and is currently at work on her sixth novel. You can reach her at www.lorillake.com.

Alexandra Lazar is a London-based artist, writer, and art consultant and a member of the British Association of Illustrators and the Association of Art Historians. Her work encompasses illustration, animation, and curation. The tamer side of her work can be seen at www.cyanworks.com; email her for information on upcoming projects. Her mundane obsessions are lightning storms, sushi, and Austrian baking.

Rope Wolf is a Native American who grew up off rez in San Francisco. When not working for the corporate dollar, hy writes erotica and short stories. Hy speaks and teaches in the LBGT community on a variety of topics including BDSM. Hy is co-chair of Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits (www.baaits.org) and founder of Butch/Femme Socials (mujeres2@lycos.com). Hys story "You" in this issue is dedicated to J.

OnOurBacks ADVENTURES IN LESBIAN SEX

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Editor's Postcard

Mouse-behaving

by Suzanne Corson

Since you're holding this magazine in your hot little hands, you obviously don't spend *all* your time on a computer. But if you're like many folks, you're well acquainted with the magical web of instant news, entertainment, and countless other distractions found online. In this issue, we explore how cyberspace has changed queer women's lives. From shopping for sex toys at online stores to shopping for sex partners at dating sites, it's a brave new world out there, and we have more access to it than ever before.

You'll learn about websites that hook you up—with knowledge, entertainment, resources for better sex, and *each other*—through online communities, listservs, and guides to events and groups that bring real people face to face. We even tell you how to write a personal that will get you laid, just like our cover couple, Mel and Jolene.

Sparks flew when they met in the flesh after having online chats. They couldn't even wait to get to a bedroom, as you'll see in this issue's centerfold. We also bring you Huck and Tank, two of the naughtiest scouts we've ever seen. Also, Amber Dawn and Trish Kelly, editors of *With a Rough Tongue: Femmes Write Porn*, share a spicy bedtime story together.

We bring back fall's cover girl, Annie Sprinkle, and her lover Beth Stephens for a poignant update on their lives in *Hairotica*.

Finally, I'd like to acknowledge the generosity of writer Stephanie Alexis Bonvissuto, who is donating the fee from her story "The Last Place You Look" to the Hurricane Katrina LGBT Relief Fund.

It was great to meet so many of you at our booth at the Folsom Street Fair. Below is one of my souvenirs from that day. And for those of you we met who said you wanted to model, remember to send in those photos!

Suzanne Corson

Tyler Vinciguerra worked with me at the *On Our Backs* booth at the Folsom Street Fair.

Letters

Our readers tell us what they love about *On Our Backs* and our fall issue—turns out it's big girls and dirty advice that keep them coming back for more.

Big Discovery

I just wanted to say that the Rock and Jill spread was *hot*. ("Daddy/girl Training Now in Session," Fall 2005). Hooray for fisting! The energy between those two was sizzling—I'm surprised the magazine didn't catch on fire in the mailbox. I love it when you feature big girls... more, please.
—Jeanne, Lawrence, Kansas

I looked through the fall issue, finding the sassy, skinny, shaved lesbians I'd expect to see filling the magazine's pages—that is, until I stumbled upon the Daddy/girl training-session pictorial. To my surprise, there was a full-figured woman lying down, exposing every inch of her sexy body to me! I about had an orgasm from looking at this one picture. Being a fat girl myself, I *love* seeing skin and lots of it! I am totally looking forward to more pictures of fat girls. The bigger, the more beautiful—that's my motto. Thank you so much for the delicious eye candy.
—Alicia Fennell, Sacramento, California

Pink and White Pleasure

Thank you for the sexy centerfold in the fall issue ("Casting Couch"). Jiz and Dylan are so hot together! Props also on featuring Pink and White Productions in your magazine. The world needs more porn companies that produce material by and for queer ladies. It's especially wonderful to know that there is a company out there that celebrates "blurred gender lines and fluid sexualities." *On Our Backs* has always had its hand (among other things) on the pulse of what is hot in lesbian porn. Keep it up! *—A. Whitworth, via the internet*

With Sprinkles on Top

The fall issue was fantastic. Annie Sprinkle rocks my world ("The Good Doctor"). I'm so very grateful to be able to receive in my Kansas mailbox a magazine that focuses on the beauty and heat of all kinds of women. I especially enjoyed the Daddy/girl pictorial with Jill and Rock.*—Melanie Schnebelen, Lawrence, Kansas*

What a treat to visit with Annie Sprinkle. What would life be without a Sprinkle of sexpertise? And that tongue twister picture of Jill and Rock is fucking *hot*! I appreciate the diversity that *On Our Backs* exhibits in their choice of models as far as body type, size, age, race, and "flavor," i.e., vanilla, rocky road, tutti-frutti, etc. I am grateful for all the spice, warmth, and classy kink your magazine graces our lives with.
—Krissa Ananda, Alameda, California

Hot Wintery Writing

My first encounter with *On Our Backs* involved the "Best Of" erotica books, which my roommate and I swiped from each other (she had volume one, I had volume two) at fairly regular intervals through a long Chicago winter. We were so high on erotica that around Valentine's Day, she suggested I write my own. I'm sending you a copy of my first erotic 'zine as a "thanks" for the inspirational smack on my ass. Imagine my joy when I discovered my 'zine sold out at a local store. I celebrated by buying the newest issue of *On Our Backs* magazine. I dropped my cash into the outstretched hand of the cute girl at the cash register, tucked Annie Sprinkle under my armpit, and biked furiously home for some private reading time. Thanks for the great fall issue.*—Marian Runk, Chicago, Illinois*
Ed: You're welcome—and keep writing!

Talk to us sweet; talk to us dirty.
Send your letters via email to letters@onourbacksmag.com; via fax to 415-648-4705; or write to *On Our Backs* at 3415 César Chávez, Suite 101, San Francisco, CA 94110. OOB

Amber Dawn and Trish Kelly enjoy the fall issue of *On Our Backs*. See even more of them on page 28.

David Ellingsen

Media Whore

Gender-bending Garbo

"The family wanted us to put in that [Greta Garbo] wasn't lesbian. But nobody we spoke to was that definitive. . . . It's one of those things you can't be definitive about. All you can do is touch on it." *The* Orlando Sentinel *interviewed director Kevin Brownlow about his documentary Garbo, in which he reports that Garbo's friends say she enjoyed describing herself in masculine terms and amusing people with the gender confusion.*

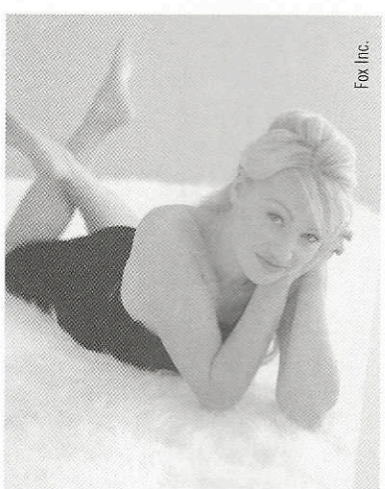
Dimitrios Kambouris/Wireimage

Ashley Judd confesses her crush on k.d. lang.

"K.d. lang is my crush. She is so special. I love her. In my opinion, the two greatest singers of our time are my sister [Wynonna Judd] and k.d. lang." *Ashley Judd told contactmusic.com that as a teenager, she sent lang a necklace because she was so crushed out on her.*

"In high school I had sex with girls quite a few times. They were straight women who I convinced to jump in the sack with me. I did a lot of fast talking as a youth; I was pretty good at it too." *Portia de Rossi described her teenage years in an interview with the* Advocate.

"In high school I had sex with girls quite a few times."



Fox Inc.

Portia de Rossi, high school seductress?

"I guess this means we've won the war on terror. We must not need any more resources for espionage." *An anonymous FBI agent comments about the feds' new anti-obscenity squad, which will divert eight agents, a supervisor, and support staff away from anti-terrorism, as reported by the* San Francisco Chronicle. OOB

BackTalk

What's the most outrageous sex website you've seen?

compiled by Kristy Papka

www.pussyslips.com: Accidentally revealed pussies, usually of celebrities climbing out of cars. *Diana, San Francisco, California*

www.dildoart.com: Definitely outrageous—and hilarious! *Amy, San Francisco, California*

www.fuckingmachines.com: Women, dildos, machines, 350 revolutions per minute. *Dale, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada*

www.RatherExtreme.com: Bizarre penetration videos. *Janet, Huntington Beach, California*

www.divine-interventions.com: The baby Jesus buttplug—nothin' says lovin' like the son of God up your ass! *Aimee, New York, New York*

www.ultimatesurrender.com: I have a thang for the beautiful butch Hungarian on that site. Imagine wrestling a hot gal and getting points for pinning her down and poking some fingers in her tight ass. Hot! *Jez, Oakland, California*

www.buckangel.com: By outrageous, I assumed you meant cool, crazy, and off the wall... so I *had* to submit this site. He is all of the above and then some, and I love it. *Phillyboy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

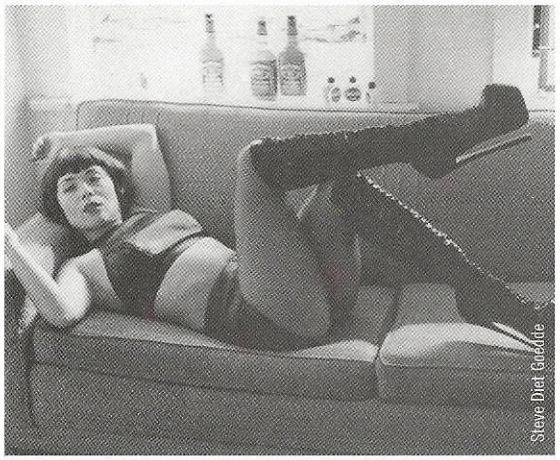
www.loveyourmouse.com/awards/cannes/tokstok/kamasutra.html: Takes a while for it to load, but when it does, you can click on a piece of furniture and then look at five ways for a couple to have sex on that furniture. You can even design your own position. *Georgette, Butte, Montana*

www.kinkygurl.com: They're lesbian-oriented, the site has great D/s stories, the pictures are geared toward girl-on-girl BDSM, and the matchmaker section got me a date just last month with a *hot* dyke. Oh, and they have really hot podcasts, which not many sites are doing yet. *Julia, San Francisco, California*

What was your most humorous sexual experience? Send your BackTalk to editor@onourbacksmag.com.

The North and South of It

More kissing and telling from our traveling diva.



You walk through the nondescript doors of a gay men's sex club. A sharp-eyed butch with a clipboard greets you at the door. You nod knowingly, and she passes you through to the inner sanctum. A cute femme with a sparkly lip piercing takes your money, shows you the rules, and chats you up at the window. As you walk in farther, there are no guys to be seen. Instead you see women, all sorts of women—femmes and butches, retro dolls and drag kings, the seasoned dames and the barely legals, rugged mountain women and charming little urbanites. From mullets to mohawks, dungarees to Dolce & Gabbana, they're there, half naked, and they're fucking. They're strapped on and wrist deep in action!

Welcome to Halifax, Nova Scotia!

Yup, Halifax. You read that right.

Sometimes the hottest and friendliest dyke sex parties are found in the most unexpected places. Sure, you'd expect queervilles like New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco to have them—and they do. The problem with the big-city sex parties is often this: If you don't know the people and aren't in the cliques, you don't get laid. You'd think that city dykes would be aggressive and freewheeling with their tricking. Not true. Like so many lesbians, when it comes to hooking up, city-slicker pussy lickers are just as shy as anyone else. I think that their shyness gets covered up by urban bravado or pretense of boredom/cool sometimes. So when I start to get the blues and blue ovaries, I head out of town to find lezzie-sex hospitality.

On my recent teaching trip to Canada, I presented at Venus Envy's stores in Halifax and Ottawa, Ontario. It turns out the shop is the epicenter for cute women and their events. From experience, I can tell you that Canadian women are very friendly and quite sensual. Those long nights seem to give them lots of time to do sexual research, and they come out in spring horny as hell. In Halifax, a few times a year the organizers of SheDog take over a men's bathhouse/sex club and turn it into a paradise of female fornication. The organizers take their mission of sexual pleasure seriously and make sure that you feel safe and comfortable and get a chance to meet other women. The SheDog site is full of tips on how to get the most out of your visit. I'm going to be sure that my next visit coincides with another SheDog party!

So when I start to get the blues and blue ovaries, I head out of town to find lezzie-sex hospitality.

For more hot times, check out Southern queer hospitality in Dallas, Texas. Steers and queers do indeed come from Texas. And Texan queers know how to throw a party. All the sex action I know of in Texas involves SM. Maybe it has something to do with the cowboy culture. There is an all-women outdoor-sex and SM event called "The Hunt" in their hill country. They take over a campground and get down and dirty in the fall.

Some of us wild gals like to hang with sexy fags—if you are one, you'll love that the Dallas queers seem very inclusive about gender. They throw a great mixed-gender queer sex/SM event called South Plains Leatherfest each February. They've got official daytime classes, but the fun is in the hallways. It's a full weekend for kinky sex, where folks come in from all over looking to hook up. So there's high potential for good flirting and getting it on. I've had luck every year! I remember once I spied a hot butch, posing and strutting her stuff for the admiring women. She was cocky, in that bad-boy sort of way. Bad boys are the sort of trouble I have a hard time staying away from. So I sauntered past her and whispered, "You, me, tonight" and walked away. She took the bait, and we hooked up later. Apparently I was trip number two for the night, but sloppy seconds can be fun when all you're looking for is dirty sex.

Another year I was invited to join a group-fuck scene just because I happened to mention over dinner that I had no plans for the night. So there I was in a hotel suite, taking part in a six-woman gangbang fantasy–fulfillment scene for a hot babe with an insatiable sexual appetite. So speak out about your availability when at South Plains Leatherfest!

Many of the play parties at South Plains are mixed-gendered, but they also have women-only ones. If you're the sort of dirty dyke who enjoys watching well-muscled leatherfags making out and getting it on, you'll be in hog heaven as you view the live action in the shared play space or at the Eagle bar. The Southern fags are most well mannered, so your play space will always be respected. OOB

Online resource list:

Venus Envy:
www.venusenvy.ca
SheDog Women's Bathhouse:
www.venusenvy.ca/Halifax/bathhouse.asp
South Plains Leatherfest:
www.southplainsleatherfest.com
The Hunt:
www.boundbydesire.org/hunt.htm

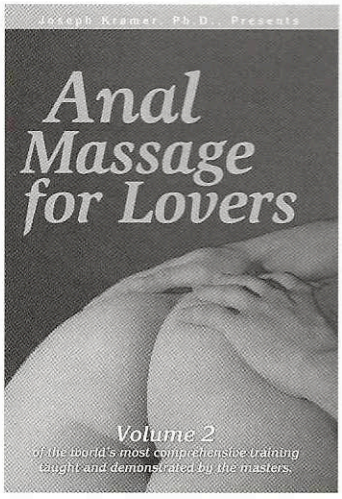
Midori is a globetrotting kinkster who parties and teaches cool classes on fun sex and wild kink all over the world. Check out her latest book, Wild Side Sex: The Book of Kink, *or go to her website, www.fhp-inc.com. Send letters, responses, and questions to Midori at midori@fhp-inc.com.*

photos by Midori

Watch It

ANAL MASSAGE FOR LOVERS, VOLUME 2

[The New School for Erotic Touch, 2005]

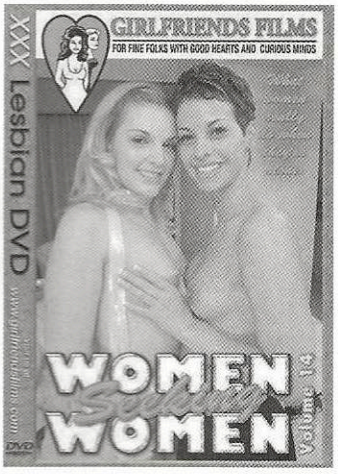

Joseph Kramer Ph.D. Presents
Anal Massage for Lovers
Volume 2
of the world's most comprehensive training taught and demonstrated by the masters.

In this fine example of "edu-porn," four couples of diverse ethnicities, ages, and sexual orientations explore different styles of anal massage. The incomparable Carol Queen and Robert Lawrence offer insightful tips between scenes. The couples are very communicative and open, and the techniques seem simple and pleasurable. I was disappointed in the film's failure to discuss latex gloves and lube (although one couple uses gloves) in health and safety terms. But overall, the film is very well done and highly recommended for those interested in exploring different options for achieving pleasure. *Melissa Maristuen*

WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN, VOLUME XIV

[Girlfriends Films, 2005]

This DVD reminded me of the vanilla sex I had back when I faked orgasms—in other words, nothing to get your panties in a bunch for. My partner and I struggled to make it through two and a half hours of



giggling, heavily made-up women fingering and rubbing on each other and demonstrating lousy oral technique. However, we *were* impressed with two positive aspects of the casting choices: the varied age range (18 to 35ish) and array of breast sizes (from natural A cups to fake DDs). For Volume XV, please get rid of the fake nails; the finger fucking made us wince! *Saranique Schwartz*

SEXTROSPECTIVE: A DECADE WITH SAN FRANCISCO'S SEXIEST LESBIANS

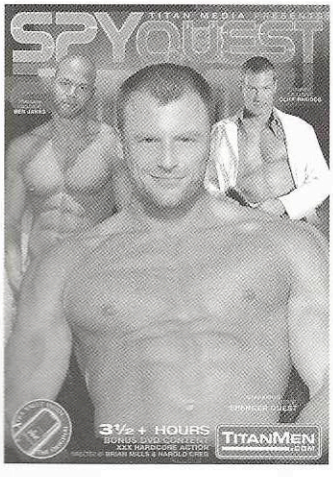
[thesexystuff.com, 2005]

Publishers aren't clamoring to release coffee table book–type collections of erotic photos of real lesbians, but maybe one will be inspired to do so after seeing this fabulous DVD. Phyllis Christopher's photographs, featured in *On Our Backs* since the eighties, deserve to be bound in a book, but for now you can enjoy more of her work as a slideshow on *Sextrospective* and read about her inspirations and motivations. The DVD boasts nearly 300 photographs of dykes "at (their) most primal and most glamorous," as Shar Rednour remarks in the written introduction. These photos are smokin'. There's sex in cars, trucks, and bars, with butch-femme, boi-boi, and femme-femme among the couplings. There are orgies, bondage scenes, artistic golden-shower shots, and sexy foot and shoe worship. The passion and heat of these photographs jump off the screen. *Suzanne Corson*

SPYQUEST

[Titan Media, 2005]

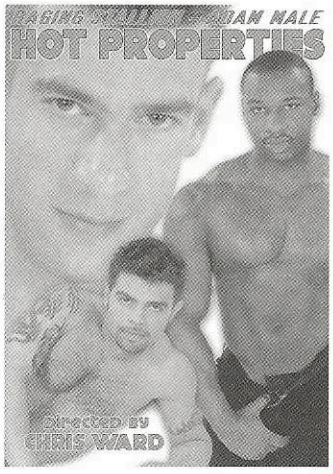
When I heard that Titan Media—the gay-porn studio that perhaps single-handedly invented the "porn without plot" genre—was



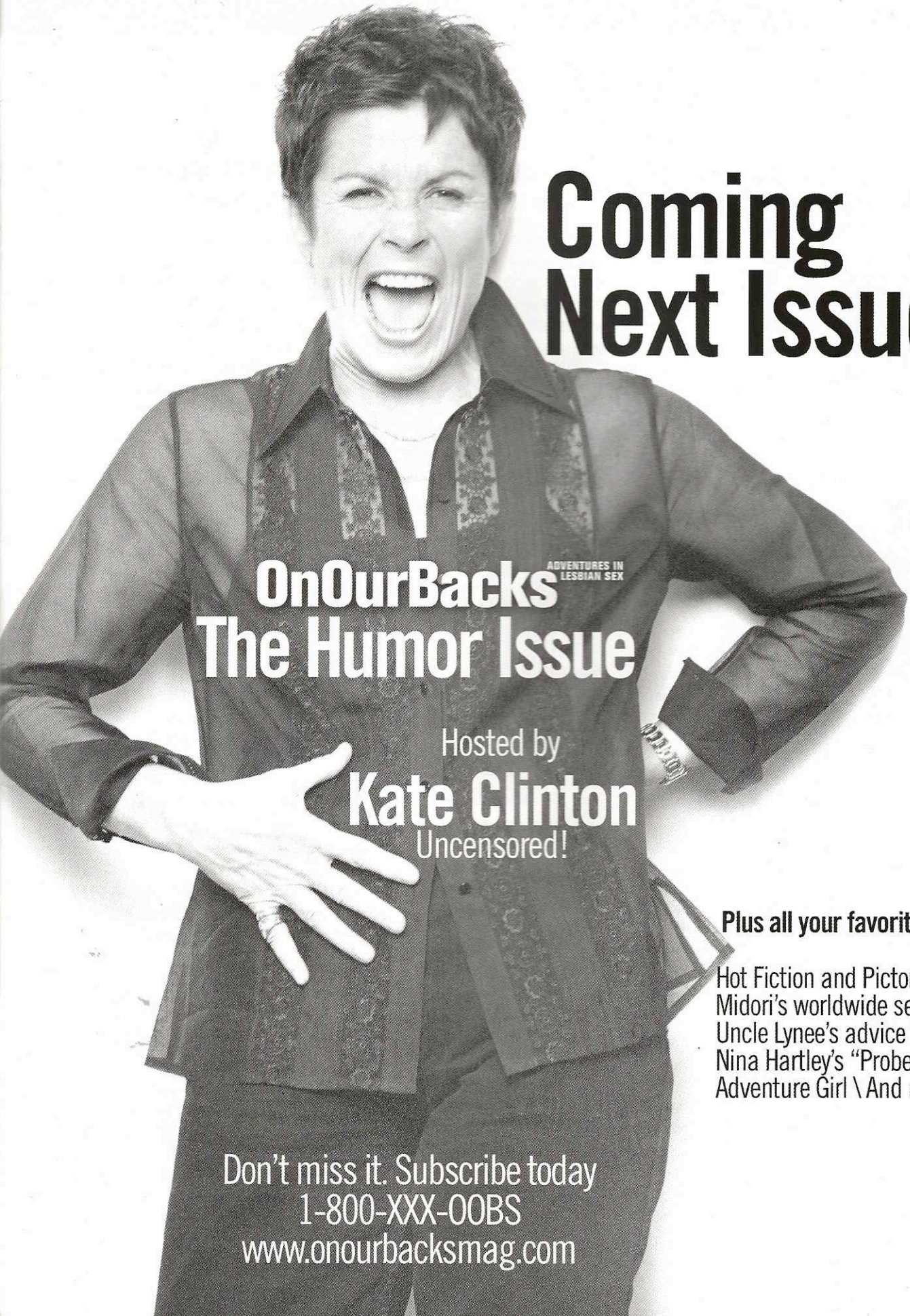
going to do a "spy" porn, I was skeptical. I appreciated Titan's pure-sex movies because they're nuanced and don't rely on gimmicks. True to form, Titan uses the spy-movie genre to create powerful, sexually charged setups for each scene, and they don't get mired in a convoluted plot about stolen plans or double agents. The cast, while still extremely diverse by other studios' standards, is a tad vanilla compared to Titan's usual lineups, but they all give explosive performances in four stunning scenes of domination and control. *Jess Wakefield*

HOT PROPERTIES

[Raging Stallion Studios, 2005]



House hunters visit a San Francisco real estate agency called Hot Properties and find more than the perfect dwelling. This compilation of hot gay-male sex scenes made me tingle. I actually had to stop the film halfway through to enjoy the growing puddle in my panties. Raging Stallion Studios does a great job of straying from the norm by casting tattooed, pierced, diverse men instead of the usual pretty boys. Whether the guys were shown fucking the agent or sucking the prior tenant, the scenes were hot and had an enviably anonymous feel. *Saranique Schwartz*



Irene Young

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Try It

We're bringing you double the pleasure, double the fun in this issue to provide some spicy ideas for those of you who like to spread a little holiday cheer.

ELECTRO SEX DIGITAL POWER UNIT—DUAL CHANNEL

[Rimba/Wicked Passions, $119.95]

If you've never played with electrical stimulation before, start here. This sexy-looking silver box has easy controls, which provide *seven* kinds of electrical pulses (from soothing massage to extremely prickly sensations) with *sixteen* power levels. Just exploring the numerous pulse/intensity combinations is hot, but when you find the right beat, be ready to blast off! The basic kit comes with two lead wires with two adhesive skin pads for each, so you can stimulate four areas at once (on the same person or you can share). You can also use the box with a variety of attachments (not included) like breast cups and both metal and silicone dildos. The possibilities are endless and give new meaning to the term "electrifying sex." *Suzanne Corson*

WAYNE'S WHOOP-ASS HEALING BALM

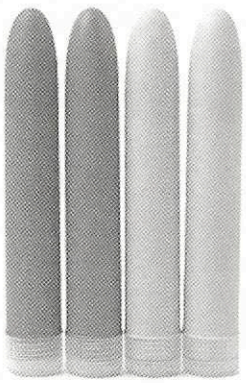
[Futurecast, $19.95]

For those who like to play hard but hate waiting until everything's healed before playing again, this balm is a magic elixir of soothing, anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, and antiseptic ingredients like milk thistle extract, aloe vera, bisabobol, red clover extract, shea butter, and jojoba oil. Whether your nipples have been chewed open, your play piercing has left more scabs than usual, or the bruises from your beatings are changing colors by the second, apply this cream after your scene, and in no time you will be saying, "Please, ma'am, may I have another?" *Lindsay Lordon*

VELVET TOUCH VIBE

[Doc Johnson, $19.99]

Doc Johnson's new 10-inch Velvet Touch Vibe is one smooth operator. The surface of this baby is indeed velvety soft to the touch. Its gently tapered head and take-me-to-the-spa color (options include "sea foam" and "peach sherbet") are designed to lull you into slipping it in, but don't be fooled—this little relaxer boasts strong vibrating capabilities. The vibe is a longer, thinner variation on an existing model, and its baton-like dimensions make it perfect for sliding between partners, intense solo expeditions, or backdoor maneuvers. The only drawback is that its sound is not as smooth as its appearance. *Laurie Koh*



THUDSTINGER FLOGGER

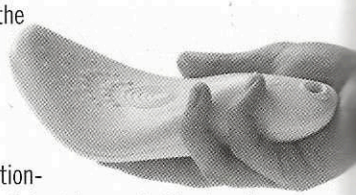
[B.A.R.E. Leatherworks, $69.95]

Among the variety of floggers at our house, this one's the current favorite. With cowhide tails outside and rubber tails inside, it delivers a thuddy slap with a sweet sting. The ProGrip handle is wrapped like a corkscrew making it easy to hang onto when the action gets going. The midsize model we have sports twenty-four 1/2-inch wide, 14-inch long tails (also available in 1/4-inch wide tails). This baby also comes in a "handy" model (only eight inches long), and a full-size model with twenty-inch tails. For such a well-made flogger, you can't beat the price. Beat a bottom instead; she'll love it. *Lindsay Lordon*

FEMBLOSSOM

[Emotional Bliss, $129]

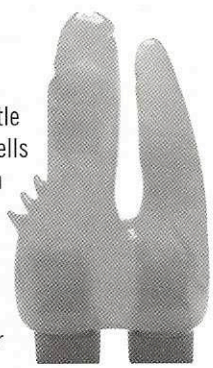
I really applaud this company's pro-woman, hands-on approach to sexual health. But once I finished admiring the beautiful packaging and detailed instructions, my admittedly penetration-hungry snatch just did not know what to do with the Femblossom. Its shape is meant to stimulate the vulva directly, making it much better suited to those who prefer noninvasive arousal. With a dizzying array of speed, frequency, and strength patterns, the vibe does pack a punch, although I would have preferred having more control over how it did so. The user guide includes nine charts, way too many for my right-brained orientation, but techies who love gadgets (or your new-to-vibrators lover) will not grow bored with this one. *Marie Dorion*



COME DOWN UNDER

[Lady Calston, $39.95]

This gadget may look a little scary, and it definitely smells a little scary, but it's a fun ride and waterproof to boot! With two motors and controls, each arm of the toy can be driven at different speeds. Use it for double penetration, clit stimulation with one arm inside, pussy



penetration with anal massage (or vice versa), or slip the whole dang thing in for a generous, stubby dildo. Use condoms with this jelly toy, and try flavored lube to help mask the smell. *Lindsay Lordon*

LATIGO LEATHER HARNESS

[Sportsheets, $24.95]

Good news: this two-strap harness, with a leather pad and adjustable nylon straps, fits both small and big bois and grrrls (up to 60-inch hips). The snaps on the front of the pad can accommodate different-sized cock rings too. It's lightweight, so it travels well. Unfortunately, it doesn't provide a lot of support. It's great for short, quick romps, perhaps with the hottie you spied across the aisle on that flight out of town, but for longer nights of lovin', find something a little sturdier. *Lindsay Lordon*

AUDI-OH

[Audi-Oh Corporation, $89.95]

I haven't gone to bed with this many cables since I dated Ms. Leather San Francisco in the early nineties. But once I stocked up at Radio Shack, this toy proved to be a pervy, nerdy romp. What the Audi-Oh does is take music—either ambient or piped in from your handheld—and translate its differing sounds and volumes to a vibrating white capsule. With the discreet belt attachment, you can

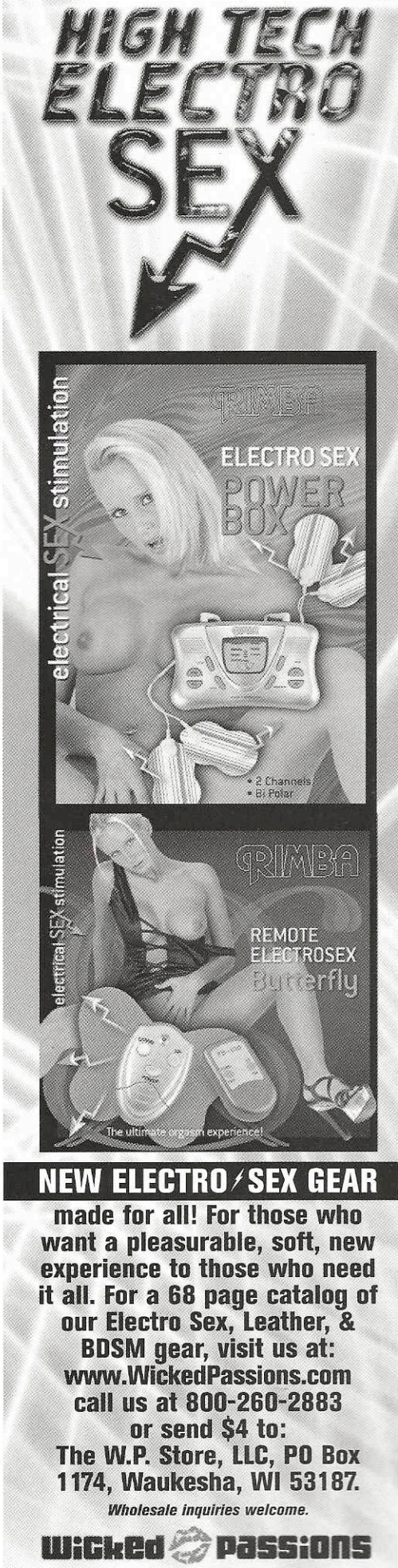
dress up the Audi-Oh and take it dancing (just stay close to the speaker, because the mic's not that strong); or you can slap on some headphones and get down with your iPod. It responds especially well to big guitar solos, drums, and women's vocals, so I had my best sex with Nancy and Ann Wilson (well, with "Barracuda" to be exact) and the worst with Eminem. Bottom line: the little bullet couldn't make me come, but it did improve my dance-floor moves. *Anna Noyes*

[Ed. Thanks to Grand Opening! for providing us with this product for review.]

FORPLAY SUCCULENTS FLAVORED LUBRICANTS

[Trimensa, $14.95]

Flavored lubes often smell great but taste ghastly or smell and taste too chemically. ForPlay has developed something much better with its new Succulents line. For most of the flavors, the smells are strong and pleasant, but the flavors are quite subtle, achieved with natural flavorings. I especially enjoyed the light tastes of the peach, passion fruit, blueberry, and watermelon lubes, but there are twenty to choose from, including champagne cocktail and raspberry sorbet. The lube itself is water-based and fairly long-lasting. Bon appétit! *Suzanne Corson*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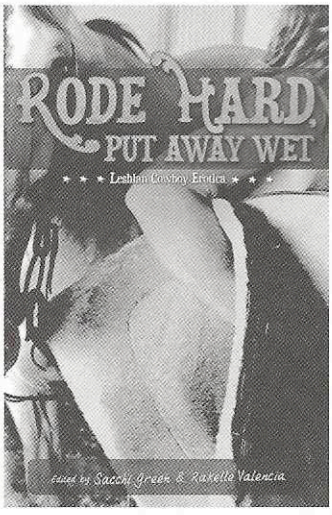
Read It

RODE HARD, PUT AWAY WET: LESBIAN COWBOY EROTICA

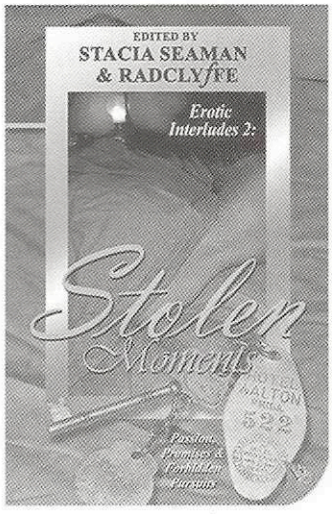
Sacchi Green and Rakelle Valencia, editors
[Suspect Thoughts Press]



Rode Hard made me feel dirty in the best possible ways. This erotic anthology of cowboy-themed smuttiness delivers everything a horny cowgirl could want, from hot BDSM and branding scenes to emotional break-up sex in a Paris, Texas, bar bathroom. There are lesbian orgies with cattle handlers straight out of the Old West and rugged Stetson dykes rescuing damsels from relationships gone wrong. I could taste the sweat off these hardworking cowboys' lips, and their callused fingertips made me work up a sweat below the belt. *Tina Butcher*

STOLEN MOMENTS: EROTIC INTERLUDES 2

Stacia Seaman and Radclyffe, editors
[Bold Strokes Books]

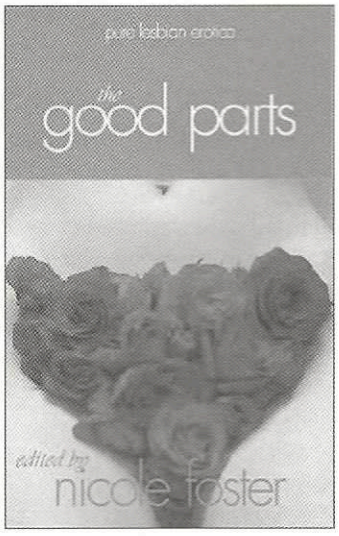


Stolen Moments is a collection of steamy stories about women who just couldn't wait. It's sex when desire overrides reason, and it's incredibly hot! From strangers making it on planes and trains, in libraries and hospitals, to couples grabbing the time to grab each other, these are women who don't let *anything* get in the way of getting it on. Authors such as Karin Kallmaker, Therese Szymanski, Radclyffe, Jean Stewart, and Georgia Beers bring you a little kink, lots of fucking and sucking, and some delicious sleepy-morning surprises. *Suzanne Corson*

THE GOOD PARTS: PURE LESBIAN EROTICA

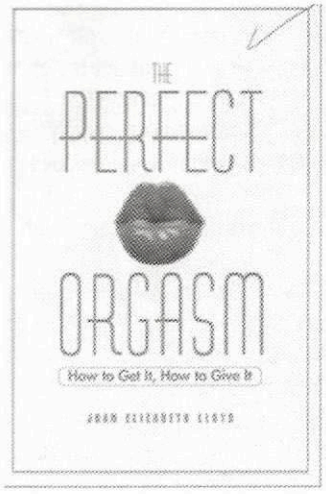
Nicole Foster, editor
[Alyson Publications]

Skip the character descriptions, nix the plot, save the small talk. As editor Foster says in the introduction, "Why bother eating dinner when you can skip straight to dessert?" In this collection, you'll find scenes from some of the hottest lesbian-erotica stories around. From Anna Avila's "In Hot Water" to "Rock Hard" by R.B. Mundi (both previously featured in *On Our Backs*) to hot butch-femme sex in C.J. Evans's "Another Woman," you'll find sex and nothing but sex. Think of this anthology as your favorite smutty DVD: you get to skip right to the good parts! *Meliza Bañales*



THE PERFECT ORGASM: HOW TO GET IT, HOW TO GIVE IT

Joan Elizabeth Lloyd
[Warner Books]

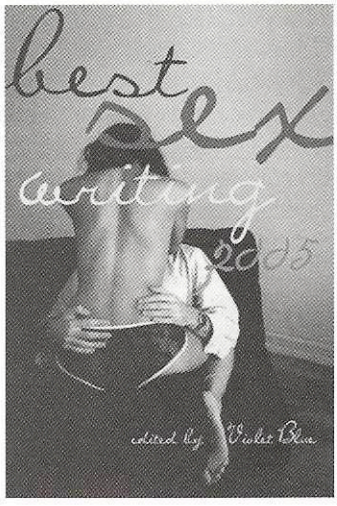


Lloyd says sex is like a meat sandwich, with communication as the bread and intercourse as the filling. This leaves no guidance for us vegetarians, muff divers, and genderfuckers. In addition to her narrow views of sexuality and gender, her inaccurate safer-sex advice was disturbing. I did appreciate Lloyd's emphasis on the importance of communication and her examples of how to approach new sexual adventures with partners. But to my greatest disappointment, she didn't mention fisting at all. For me, it's just not a perfect orgasm without a knuckle sandwich. *Tina Butcher*

BEST SEX WRITING 2005

Violet Blue, editor
[Cleis Press]

This smart collection of sex journalism is the latest addition to Cleis Press' annual "Best"



publications. Editor Violet Blue collected "daring, exciting, harsh, and relevant" stories that reveal the various ways sex is ingrained in people's lives. Queer writers in the collection include Michelle Tea, Patrick Califia, and Harlyn Aizley.

Among this orgy of stories, you'll find an account of Dr. Carol Queen's "spiritual journey" to the Kinsey Institute, explorations of sperm banks and sex clubs, profiles of people who make fucking machines, an article about hooking up at a sci-fi convention, and vignettes about different kinds of sex work.
Suzanne Corson

BEST BONDAGE EROTICA 2

Alison Tyler, editor
[Cleis Press]
Simply put, this book is an excellent, dirty read. The stories are well written, diverse, and stylish. And

downright sexy and filthy all at once. In Elaine Miller's "Be a Good Sport," two butch bois get a "lesson" in teamwork from a femme top that gives new meaning to "take one for the team," while in Ayre Riley's "All Tied Down," a woman discovers trust and explores her fantasies under the guidance of her innocent-looking, good-guy boyfriend. This is a sharp, accomplished collection that's bound (*yes*) to stay in the bedroom rather than on the bookshelf.
Meliza Bañales

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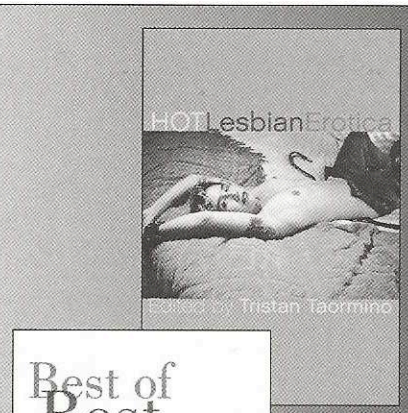
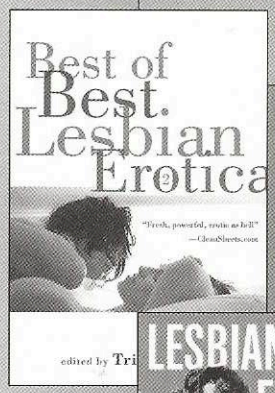
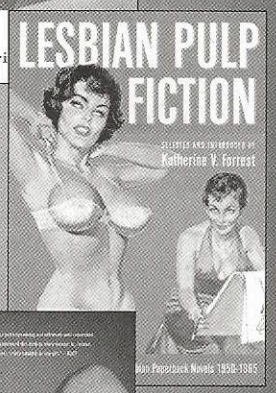
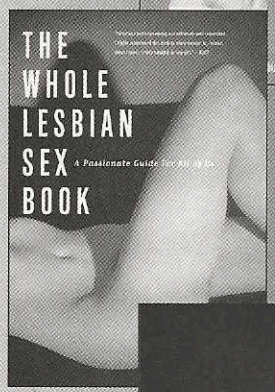
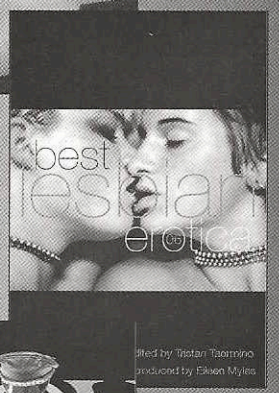
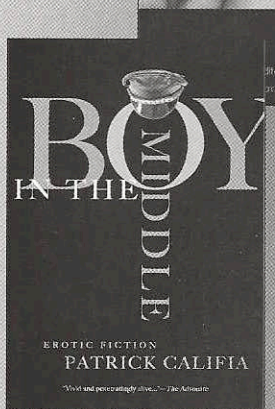








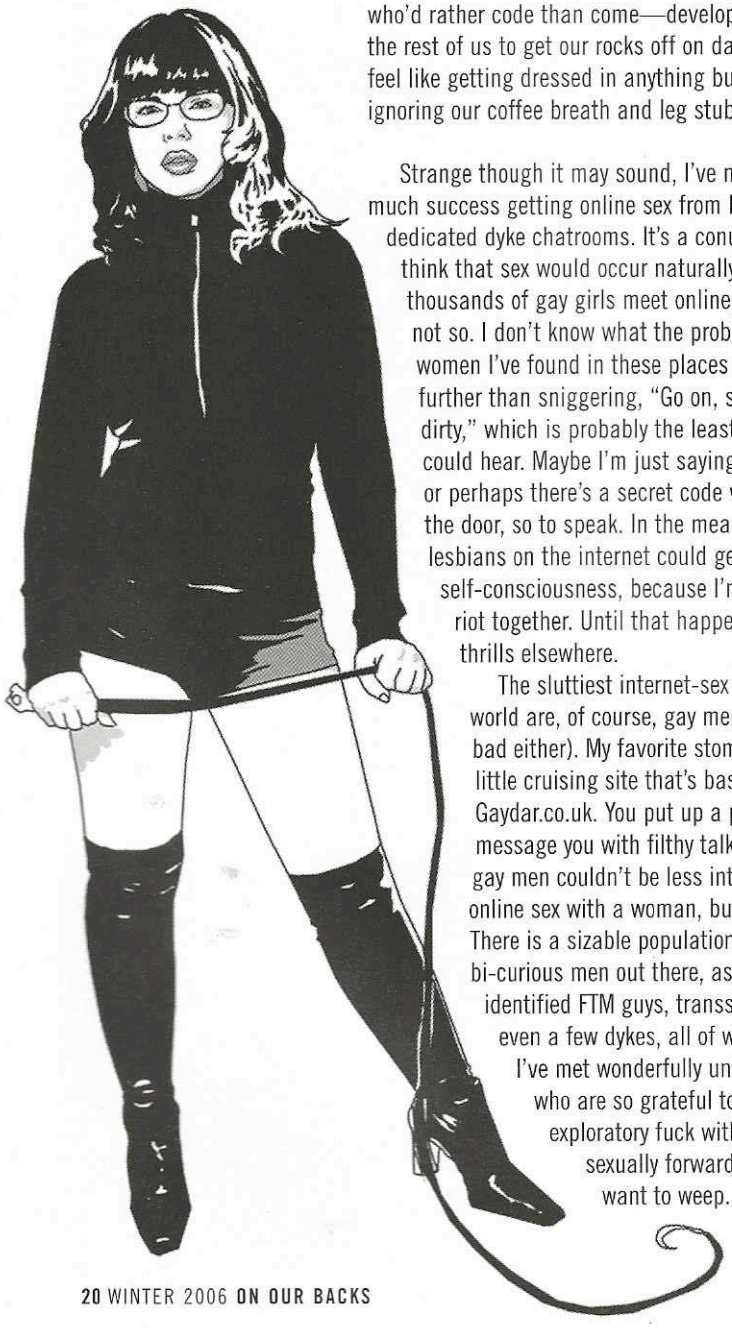




Gender? What Gender?

Adventure Girl explores sex, identity—and anatomy—in cyberspace.

Illustration by Laurenn McCubbin



Take a random poll and you'll find most people agree that the internet was invented to provide us all with cheap sexual thrills. Forget that information-superhighway nonsense; it's all about talking dirty, jerking off, and sending dodgy jpegs to random strangers.

Internet sex means you don't have to be a looker—all you really need is the ability to type quickly with one hand, be okay at spelling, and have a twisted imagination. It's funny to think that geeks—those social skills–impaired, high pants–wearing keyboard wizards who'd rather code than come—developed a means for the rest of us to get our rocks off on days when we don't feel like getting dressed in anything but grubby sweats, ignoring our coffee breath and leg stubble.

Strange though it may sound, I've never really had much success getting online sex from lesbians in dedicated dyke chatrooms. It's a conundrum. You'd think that sex would occur naturally in a place where thousands of gay girls meet online; unfortunately, it's not so. I don't know what the problem is, but the women I've found in these places never seem to get further than sniggering, "Go on, say something dirty," which is probably the least sexy thing anyone could hear. Maybe I'm just saying the wrong stuff, or perhaps there's a secret code word that unlocks the door, so to speak. In the meantime, I wish the lesbians on the internet could get over their self-consciousness, because I'm sure we'd have a riot together. Until that happens, I'll get my thrills elsewhere.

The sluttiest internet-sex practitioners in the world are, of course, gay men (swingers aren't bad either). My favorite stomping ground is a little cruising site that's based in the U.K., Gaydar.co.uk. You put up a profile, and people message you with filthy talk. You'd think that gay men couldn't be less interested in having online sex with a woman, but you'd be wrong. There is a sizable population of bisexual and bi-curious men out there, as well as queer-identified FTM guys, transsexual women, and even a few dykes, all of whom love pussy. I've met wonderfully uninhibited gay guys who are so grateful to be having a safe, exploratory fuck with a dirty-mouthed, sexually forward gal, it makes me want to weep.

The thing about online sex is you never really know whom you're doing, and this gives you a lot of freedom to play (although keep internet-safety rules in mind, like not divulging any real information about yourself). It's all about the fantasy; the person on the other end of the line could be anyone—including another dyke pretending to be someone she's not—and you can too, so get ready to hit that big, beautiful return key, baby! Sometimes I play as a woman, sometimes as a guy, and sometimes as neither. In the interest of journalistic integrity, I decided to have a spin to demonstrate:

Him: ASL*
Me: 36, M, London
Him: Pix?
Me: No, sorry.
Him: What do you want to do?
Me: I want to get fucked. Will you fuck me?
Him: Bend over and spread 'em.
Me: I'm bending. Ow! Your hands are so rough on my skin.
Him: Stop complaining!
Me: Oh, my god, your cock is huge! I can feel it throbbing.
Him: I'm greasing your hole and I'm sticking it in you.
Me: Feels so good.
Him: I'm holding your head down, you're struggling, but you can't move.
Me: My hands are tied.
Him: We're sweating, and I'm fucking you so hard in your tight ass.
Me: Oh, yeah! And I'm loving it so much, I've grown another asshole so that you can fuck that one too.
Him: Uh, what did you say? I don't understand.

Oops! I screwed up and took that fantasy thing too far. Sometimes they run with it, and we play a really freaky sexual scene together; other times, alas, it puts them off their stroke. Silly me. Oh well, never mind, there's plenty more where he came from. OOB

* *Age, Sex, Location*

Every issue, Adventure Girl sets off for another sexcapade. Like to see her make your fantasy her reality? Write it down and send it to: On Our Backs, *3415 César Chávez, Suite 101, San Francisco, CA 94110; fax: 415-648-4705; email: editor@onourbacksmag.com.*

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The Femme and the Fury

My girlfriend and I are both femmes, and when we go out together, one or both of us usually get hit on by butches who don't believe we're a couple. We've tried being polite, we've tried being rude—we're just sick of it. Any suggestions on how to deal with this or, better yet, discourage it?—*Femmes for Femmes*

Sigh. It's always a bummer when some lesbians turn out to have manners as overbearing as any het dude's. You can try sarcasm along the lines of flipping your hair and saying, "Why, we're just two little femmes who couldn't possibly know our own minds or pussies without your help," before turning your back on the offender and planting a big smooch on your girlfriend's lips. Invest in two matching rings of whatever style you prefer and wear them when you go out to make your point. You can also look around for some appropriate lapel pins with a catchy slogan on it that telegraphs your position. Some lunkheaded individuals just can't believe that you don't need some big, bad butch lovin', and I don't know how to beat respect into them.

Hirsute Pursuit

How long does it usually take hair to grow back once it's been shaved? I shaved my armpits two months ago, and no hair has grown back yet. I've thought about shaving my pubes, since I hear it can heighten sensation, but how long do they take to grow back? —*Hair-free and Hating It*

Since most shaved body hair is fully regrown in about ten days, you seem to be a unique one, hair-wise. Hair grows continually, which is why people often shave daily; the stubble quickly becomes uncomfortable or unsightly. Pubes too should start growing back in a day or two, which is why many people hate to shave them, as things can get itchy rather quickly. Many people would like your "problem," though, since they'd prefer to be hair-free. All I can say is to give it a try and see how you like it. Just don't shave against the grain!

Sexual Cycles

While having sex during my period, I get painful twinges when I climax. I've asked some friends about this, and no one else has ever heard about anything like it. Have you? Why does this happen? I get really horny during my period, so I don't want to avoid sex when I'm bleeding. —*Aunt Flo*

You don't need to avoid sex during your period. The uterus normally contracts during orgasm (which is why some women need to relearn how to come after a hysterectomy); this can be experienced as cramping. With the heightened hormone levels during menstruation, everything is more sensitive, including your uterus. Vaginal penetration often doesn't feel as good as usual, since the tissues are more swollen and tender. I get the twinges you describe and have for years. One idea: many women feel more anal during their periods, so try your butt and see how you like it!

Luscious Lemon Lube

I was looking at the summer issue of *On Our Backs* about all the different kinds of lubes, and it made me wonder about the pros and cons of flavored lube. I've heard they can cause yeast infections. Is this true? —*Taste Tester*

I'm not a fan of flavored lubes, since most taste really artificial and some women can be sensitive to them. Anything can trigger a yeast infection in the biologically susceptible, and the glycerin used in flavored lubes (and some nonflavored ones too) to help them taste sweeter can cause yeast infections in some women. I suppose the biggest "pro" is that such lubes hide the natural taste of pussy, which may make it easier for a nervous partner to give cunnilingus a go. The biggest con of flavored lube is that it hides the taste of pussy, which, in my view, defeats the purpose of pussy eating. Of course, flavored lubes do help condom-covered dyke dicks taste better, so blowjobs might last longer!

The best lubes, either silicone- or water-based, are colorless, odorless, and flavorless and will be least likely to trigger a negative reaction (if they don't contain glycerin). If a lover is that squeamish about the taste or smell of a clean, healthy pussy, she may need to reassess her credentials as a lesbian. However, if some flavored fun is desired, such lubes may be marginally safer than using real fruit or chocolate, since the sugar in those foods can definitely trigger an infection if they're not completely removed by washing afterward. OOB

If a lover is that squeamish about the taste or smell of a clean, healthy pussy, she may need to reassess her credentials as a lesbian.

Nina Hartley is a porn star and a registered nurse. Send your woes her way.
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Uncle Lynnee's School for Bois

The definitive word on etiquette for butches and those who love them.

Butch on Butch?

I've always been with femmes, and I know what to do around them. Lately I've been curious about butches and what it would be like to be with one. How can I approach another butch for sex without getting punched? *Big Faggot*

I don't think you're going to get punched for asking, but if you think that's a possibility, you probably live someplace where it's not cool. Move to or visit San Francisco, Toronto, or another metropolis where butch faggotry is allowed, encouraged, and complained about by femmes. ("There are no butches who are into femmes anymore! They're all doing each other!") Other than that, place an ad on the internet classifieds. Put the word out among your friends and have them scout around. Host a butch brunch and talk to your pals about your curiosity. Someone's bound to feel the same. I'd say the ratio of butch-dyke fags to garden-variety dykes is about the same as gay to straight—10 to 20 percent, depending on the town. It's just a matter of whether they're out about it. Where there's a woody, there's a way.

Making Out Without Makeup

I'm very secure in my femme identity and who I am, and I happen to be missing the "femme-makeup gene." I just can't stand the stuff and feel smothered when it's on my face. This butch I'm dating says I must not be a real femme and wants me to get all made up when we go out. I like to be decked out in all the other ways—fancy lingerie, skirts, heels, even manicures and pedicures. Why does she think it's so important that I slather on face paint in order to be a femme? *Hates to Paint*

Okay, folks need to stop starting their sentences with "you" and begin them with "I" instead. Rather than "You are not a real femme," say "I like to see a babe in some makeup. I think it's hot." And there is no femme-makeup gene. There are many flavors of femme. You sound like my pal, Leslie Mah, the ultimate self-described tomboy femme and the flying V guitarist for Tribe 8. Short skirts, long hair, eyeliner, stomps around in big boots, Motorhead T-shirts, and a big rubber dick. Tomboy femmes are hot.

As to why your butch thinks it's important for you to wear makeup, well, she likes what she likes. If she were a superficial bastard who wanted to fuck some fashion model, then she would. She just wants you to try it on for size. So, as my mom always says in German, quit being so goat-legged. It's not going to kill you to compromise with your boifriend. You don't have to slather or smother. Put on a little eyeliner and some colored lip balm, and for all a butch knows, that's "all made up." But to you it's a couple of easy accents. It never hurts a girl to highlight her already flawless beauty, without looking or feeling like a painted lady. But if you're totally against it, tell her, "Ain't Reese Witherspoon a girl in Freeway*? Fresh and natural: love it or leave it, bubba."*

The Butch Brain

Can you give us femmes a glimpse into the butch brain? Why are butches so invested in their personas and roles, acting superior and always needing to be on top (at least in public)? Some of them seem downright misogynistic in how they speak about and treat femmes. I've met feminist butches before, but they seem few and far between. *Pearls Before Swine*

Some butches have issues. Like insecurity. The true butch knows she's cool and is a gentleman. She goes to therapy, works on her shit, loves herself as opposed to being stuck on herself, and therefore is able to truly and properly adore babes. If a guy is a jerk, it's 'cuz she hates herself, she's pissed at the way the world treats her, and she turns it outward 'cuz that's how she sees most guys dealing with their feelings. Red-alert behaviors include:

1. Stares in the mirror more than she looks at you (because she's unsure of herself, not 'cuz she thinks she's great-looking).
2. Talks shit about women.
3. Pretends she only pitches but never catches, when it's not true.
4. Corrects you, interrupts you, talks over you, ignores you.
5. Acts like butches are better than femmes. (Duh. Femmes are way better.)

If you happen upon any assholes who act this way, suggest they find themselves another butch, or maybe even a man, since they obviously don't like femmes or any kind of women. But do this only if you are armed or have your posse around, because this "suggestion" will piss off your average jerk-off, and things could get ugly. OOB

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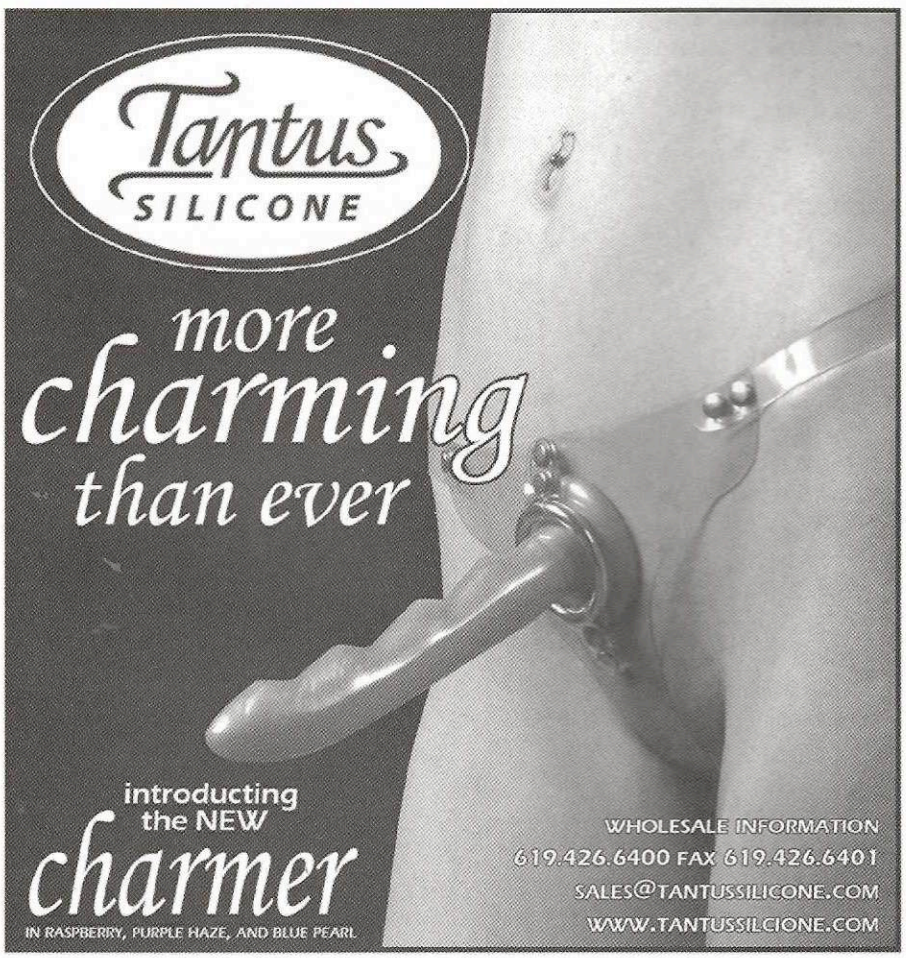
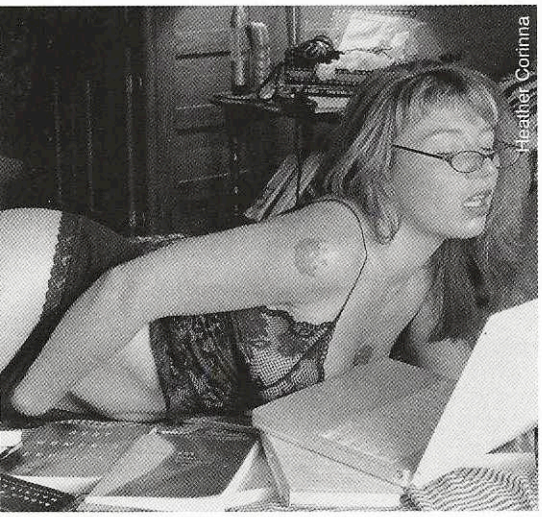


Personal Best

Eight steps to the perfect online profile.



It's Friday night, your blind date canceled, and you're fresh out of triple-A batteries; sometimes the best way to get lucky at the last minute is to go online. But with so many millions of profiles floating in the cyber-void, how do you get yours noticed?

To find out, *On Our Backs* got down and dirty with the experts in cyber-hookups, which fall into two categories: online dating services and online communities. Dating websites like Date.com, Friendfinder.com, and Match.com exist solely to hook you up, via profiles that list what and who you're looking for. Many of these don't charge users to create profiles and scope potential matches but do charge a monthly fee for premium services like emailing or chatting online.

Online communities like Friendster.com, craigslist.org, and Myspace.com offer free classified ads, forums, bulletin boards, and personals. While these sites aren't exclusively for cruising, many users work them just for that purpose, especially for sex with no strings attached (just check out the women-seeking-women board on craigslist for a taste).

A picture is worth a thousand words.

In a survey of online daters, 56 percent said the first thing they check out when reviewing a profile is the photo. "Bottom line—a photo profile will be read," states Shira Kallus of Date.com, a "relationship community" that recently launched a gay and lesbian chat room. "If your photo isn't posted, people who see your profile may wonder if you're serious about online hookups." Susan McTavish Best, a spokesperson for craigslist, agrees. "Photos definitely do attract more attention. I think that must be a given, whether it's a date or an apartment rental." Friendster.com's Jeff Roberto concurs, "[Photos are] the first thing to catch one's attention, and if you don't post one, you're definitely not operating at full capacity."

Flatter yourself.

While we're on the subject, "Picture quality is important," says Kallus. Make sure the photo is representative of you; if you've got it, flaunt it. For instance, a picture of you with your new pug puppy could cause an avalanche of emails from animal lovers. Do not, under any circumstances, post photos of yourself with an ex. No one wants to relive that drama with you over drinks.

Give yourself a title.

On craigslist and other bulletin boards, your post can get passed by if you don't use the right words. "New to area, looking for fun time" will drown in a sea of blue hyperlinks. How about "Condoleezza in search of her personal WMD (Woman of Major Desirability)" or "Naughty secretary seeks full-time employment with creative CEO"?

Be detail-oriented.

"Saying 'I like music' or 'I love movies' has virtually no meaning in online dating," reveals Kallus. "Be as descriptive as possible. Say 'I like Tegan and Sara' or 'I couldn't stop the tears while watching *French Kiss*,' and disassociate yourself from the fray." On the other hand, being purposefully vague has its benefits. Omitting certain details, like where you're pierced or tattooed, will give a respondent something to ask you in her first email.

Avoid the bait 'n' switch.

"Be as honest as possible upfront" when posting your profile, suggests Kallus. If you're looking for a one-night stand, say so—don't let it slip that you love flowers and long walks on the beach in addition to raunchy bathroom sex. You'll dodge awkward misunderstandings about your motives.

Play by the rules.

"We advise our users to follow our terms of use," says craigslist.org spokesperson McTavish Best. Almost every legit site will ban the same types of inflammatory and/or illegal postings: text that is harmful to minors, pornographic, or degrades on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, race, or other factors. And it goes without saying that stalking is a serious no-no.

Make yourself available.

While Friendster already tracks the number of views your profile receives in a month, the site just launched a function to let a user see who's viewed her profile. But don't panic—"You can opt in or opt out" of being tracked as a viewer, says Roberto. "Our users have been asking for it for a long time." Friendster users can also email "smiles"—much like the "winks" on other dating sites—to potential matches free of charge.

Leave it up to her imagination.

There are some things you should *never* post if you want to get lucky, according to our experts. "Whatever you do, leave your mother out of it!" says Kallus. Other common turn-offs include "I'm looking for my baby's mama" and "I'm buying a Junior-4 on the Upper West Side; are you my new permanent roommate?" Escape the "freakout factor" by having a trusted friend scan your profile before posting it. Then leave your adorable quirks and charming eccentricity for the second date—*if* there is one. OOB

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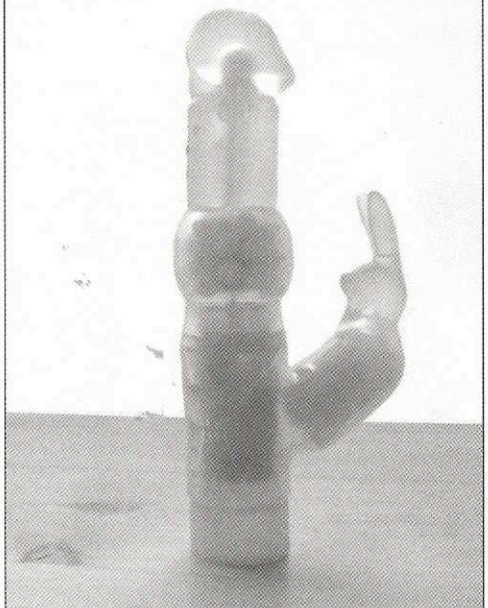

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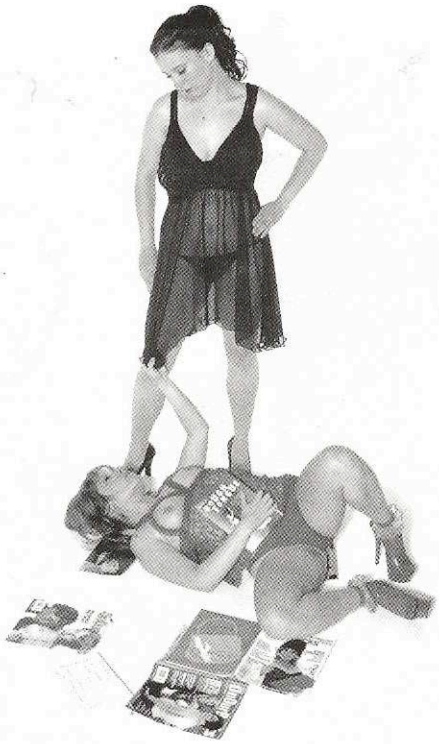


Once Upon a

Trish reads Amber a story from their new book.

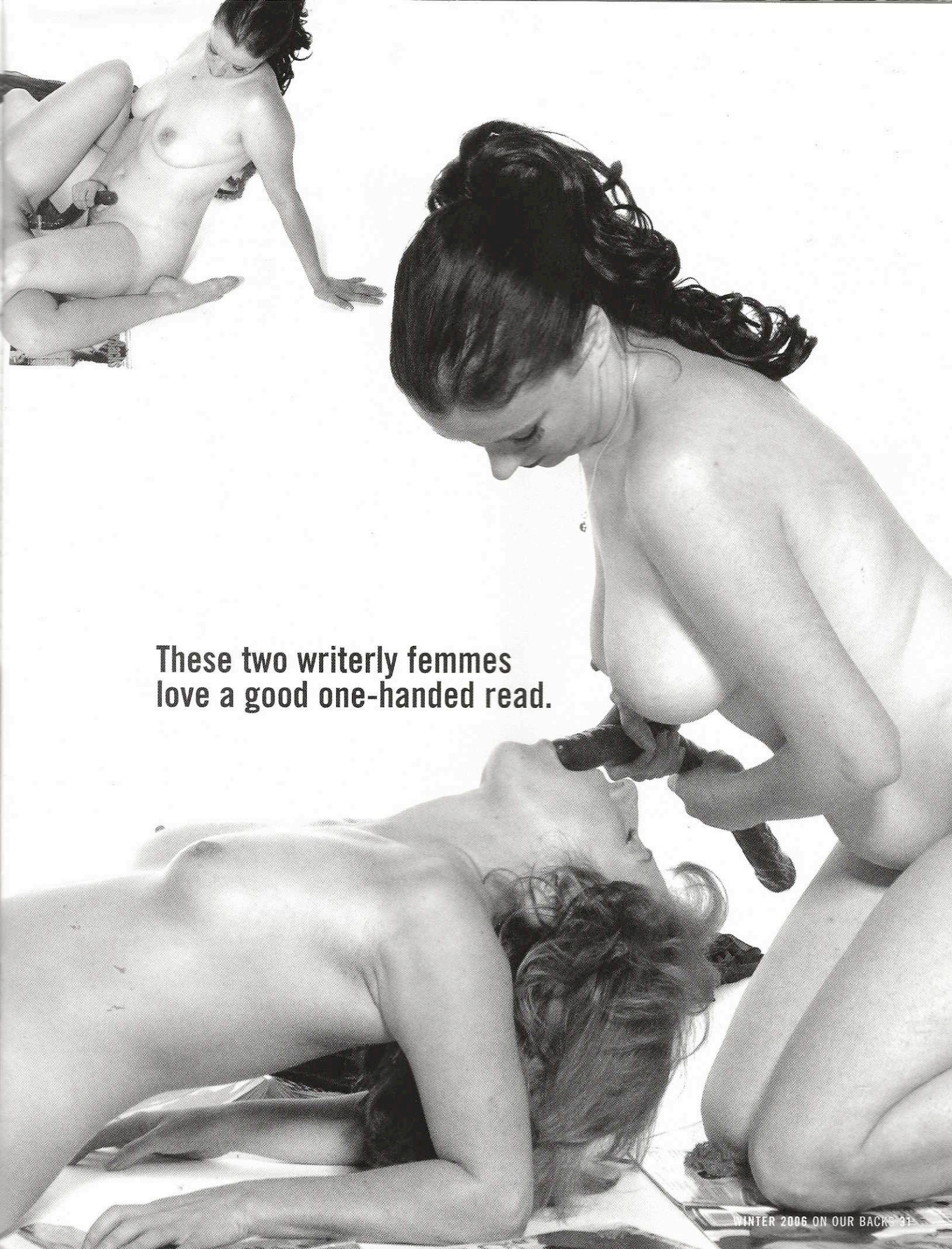
When Amber Dawn and Trish Kelly are looking to moisten their panties, the first thing they reach for is not a dildo or a vibrator, but a book. These two writerly femmes love a good one-handed read so much, they've edited the anthology *With a Rough Tongue: Femmes Write Porn,* recently published by Arsenal Pulp Press. With eighteen hardcore stories about everything from sex with a laundromat attendant to bondage play with a teenage vampire, *With a Rough Tongue* proves that girl-on-girl sex has gone far beyond polite advances and landscape metaphors.

photography by davidellingsen.com

models: Amber Dawn and Trish Kelly

Femme

ROUGH TOMBOY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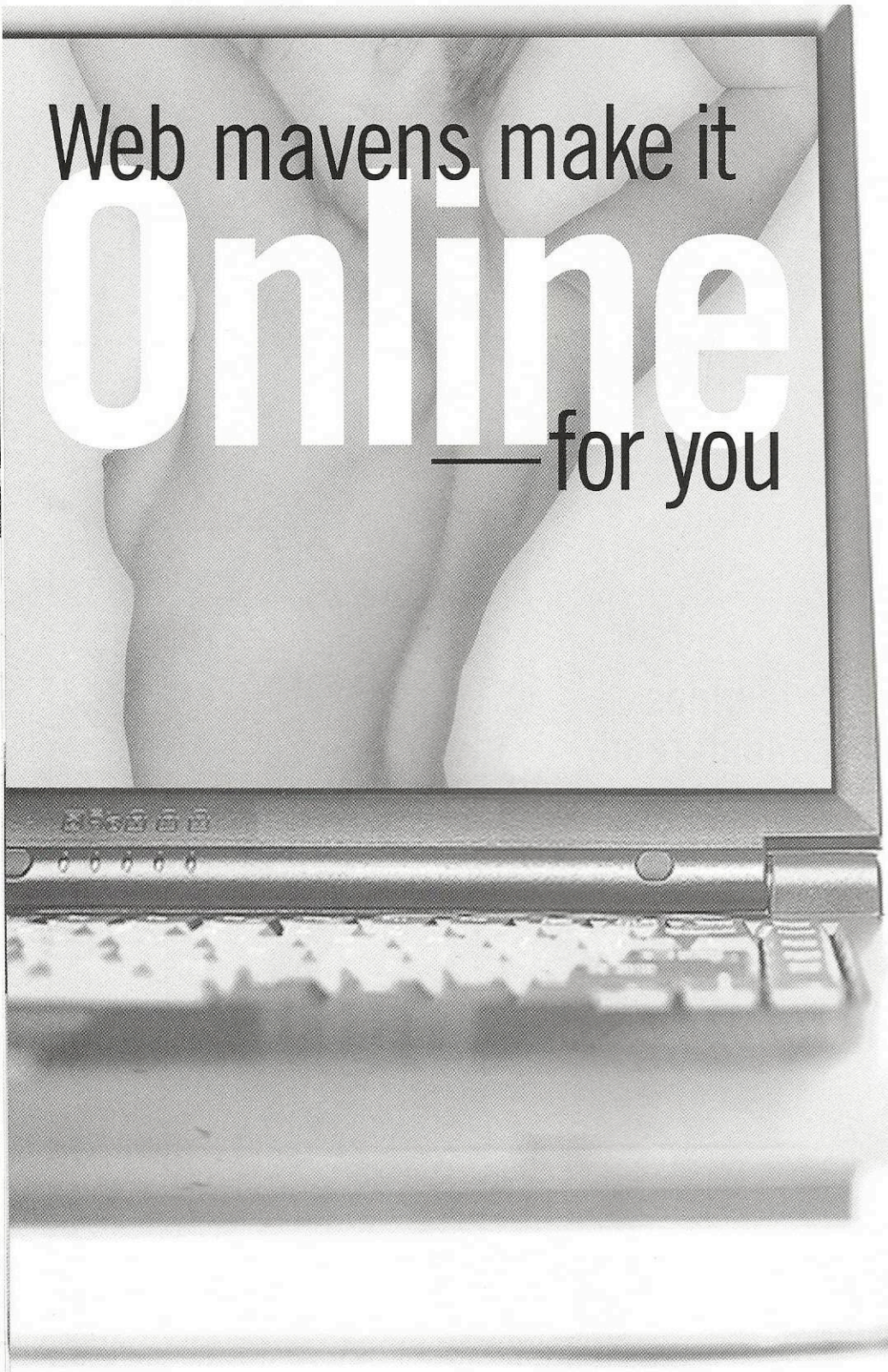


Web mavens make it Online—for you

by Suzanne Corson

Starting a website can be as simple as filling in the blanks on a prefab template or as complicated as orchestrating a multimedia extravaganza, staffed by engineers, artists, and programmers. No matter how they're constructed, all sites need content that is interesting, fresh, and relevant. That's where these queer-women web mavens come in.

For this issue, *On Our Backs* interviewed (virtually, of course) women of vision, creativity, and technical know-how who bring lesbians and bi women the sites they love: Amy Andre of DearAmy.net (sex advice), Rhon and Christine Drinkwater of Butch-Femme.com (community), Trouble of NoFauxxx.com (radical porn), and Rachel Venning of Babeland.com (shopping and advice).

Meet the dykes behind the scenes of some dynamic websites you should know about.

ON OUR BACKS: How did your website get its start, and what is your role?

Rachel Venning: When we started Babeland.com in 1996, we didn't have an online store, and its style was like a 'zine. It was about queer culture and sex politics, anything that Claire, my business partner, or I wanted to write about. Now I do the strategic planning—deciding any major changes or how we're going to grow.

Rhon and Chris Drinkwater: The busy hub known as Butch-Femme.com is a homemade lil' mom-and-pop effort created in 1996 by two people in love, Daddy Rhon and Miz Chriz, an old-school butch-femme couple out of Dallas. We met and fell in love online, and Butch-Femme.com was our way of thanking the universe.

Amy Andre: DearAmy.net is all about giving sex advice directly to readers. I *am* Dear Amy, with a master's degree in sexuality studies. If I don't know the answer to a question, I will personally research it.

Trouble: I am NoFauxxx.com's creator, owner, and sole employee. I started it three years ago as a feminist response to the mainstream porn industry. I wanted to fulfill my community's need for an erotic outlet that wasn't based on stereotypes, generalization, or fetishes. Even in the realm of "alternative porn," the "rebel girls" have become a niche. I wanted to go beyond the concept of porn niches or categories altogether.

OOB: How do you describe your site?

The Drinkwaters: Butch-Femme.com is a real-world community of 50,000 members. It's primarily for butches who are into femmes and femmes who are into butches, but the community-at-large is friendly to all variants of genders and queer flavors.

Andre: DearAmy.net is sex advice for the modern player. It's for anyone who wants to learn more about having hot sex.

Venning: It's a Babeland store online. Primarily, Babeland.com is a place to get sex toys and sex information, but it's also a place to receive encouragement and support for living a more passionate life.

Trouble: A venue for hot, radical porn made by ladies, queers, and artists from all over the world, NoFauxxx is artistic, political, and all-inclusive, featuring models of all genders and sizes.

I wanted to fulfill my community's need for an erotic outlet that wasn't based on stereotypes, generalization, or fetishes.
— Trouble, NoFauxxx.com

Amy Andre of DearAmy.net

OOB: What kinds of features are on your site? Any interactivity?

Andre: Right now there's an RSS feed on DearAmy.net, so that people can get the weekly updated Q&A and sex tips without having to come to the site.

Rhon Drinkwater: The forums are the most visited. The galleries are our favorites. As much as any scholarly book about butch-femme, those 45,000 gallery photos are our history. I first found online community through e-mail lists, and still think they're great for in-depth discussions, but mailing lists have waned in the last few years.

Chris and Rhon Drinkwater of Butch-Femme.com

Venning: We have an advice column on Babeland.com, and we post customer reviews of the toys. Sometimes we have contests; most recently we ran one to find a guest reviewer. The winner got free toys to review for six months.

Trouble: Currently NoFauxxx.com has photosets, videos, a free message board, and a few models keep online journals in the members' area.

The Drinkwaters: Butch-Femme.com has chat, forums, a huge community gallery, over seven thousand personal ads, a writing section, and over thirty mailing lists. We also host a long weekend party, known as the Annual Bash, in a different city every year. Butch-Femme.com Slut Night parties are also held coast to coast all year long. (These are not sex parties, but celebrations of who we are.)

OOB: What are the most popular parts of your site, and which do you wish had more visitors?

Andre: The main feature of DearAmy.net is the advice. I also have a section on sex tips. Everything is updated weekly.

Trouble: NoFauxxx.com has over 150 photosets from forty models, and those photosets are the most popular feature of the site. There is a growing collection of videos, which are the second most visited. Then in order of popularity: erotic stories, candid photos of the models, journals, downloads, and resources.

Venning: The most popular areas are the store, advice column, and how-to's, which are a huge collection of instructional articles about sexy stuff—how to pack, write a love letter, strip, go down on a woman, and much more. We also have a ton of other information: traveling with toys, making safer sex sexy, using breath to enhance orgasms, etc.

"Sex Act" focuses each month on a social issue or public-policy concern. It lays out the situation and directs the user how to take action. I'm proud of that portion of our site, which is devoted to defending and expanding our sexual freedom.

And we have a blog, which is our entertaining and informative response to sex-related items in the news. I wish more folks looked at that.

OOB: How is your site different from similar sites?

Trouble: The only sites that were similar to NoFauxxx don't exist anymore, and even those were limited. NoFauxxx is all-inclusive and doesn't limit its content to queer, BBW (big, beautiful women), or female models. All other sites have some limiting factor.

The Drinkwaters: We are the only major site devoted to butches and femmes.

Venning: We have a lot more non-sales-related content than most "store" sites.

Andre: A lot of sex-advice sites seem humorless or even condescending. I'm a fun-loving femme who knows a lot about sex. I'll never dis a reader. I give accurate, explicit advice with flare and respect.

DearAmy.net is also different because I'm different. There aren't a lot of black, Jewish, bisexual women with graduate degrees in sex out there, and even fewer who are giving sex advice on the web. Because of my diverse background, I can connect with people in many different communities.

OOB: Have you encountered any censorship or hassles from homophobes?

The Drinkwaters: Because of the unique focus of Butch-Femme.com, we rarely bleep across the online radar of most lesbian bashers. Years ago our hosting company pulled our entire website without warning. Then we got our own server. A printer, also a few years ago, refused at the last minute to print our community calendars. But members alert us if bashers or spammers sneak onto the site to wreak havoc, and they're banned almost immediately.

Venning: We have behind-the-scenes hassles. Lots of businesses won't work with adult businesses. Paypal, for example, won't work with us.

Trouble: I had a small group of protestors at a workshop I did once, but when I confirmed that all of my models gave written consent to appear on the website, the protestors went away.

Andre: So far, so good.

OOB: What do you have planned for your site's future?

Trouble: I have many far-reaching goals, including some print material and a cabaret tour featuring NoFauxxx models. For now, I'm focusing on adding journals, interactive profiles (for both the models and the members), commenting features, and more video content. As always, I strive to raise the quality of the photography with every set, so that members can see constant improvement.

The Drinkwaters: We had a mission to create community. Now it is up to the community to decide what their mission will be.

Venning: We just completed a redesign, so for now we're holding steady. However, we do have a brand-new site called gspotcenter.com that is exclusively about the G-spot.

Andre: I'm planning more interactivity, so readers can share their sex tips and success stories with other readers.

OOB: What else would you like *On Our Backs* readers to know about your site?

Venning: We are dedicated to them having incredible, satisfying, mind-blowing sex. The mission of Babeland is to promote and celebrate sexual vitality by providing an honest, open, and fun environment and by encouraging personal empowerment to create a more passionate world for all of us.

The Drinkwaters: Butch-Femme.com is not anonymous. You will find incredible, real people from all over the planet. They will call you on your shit, but they will also embrace you. We are the oldest dyke- community portal, and despite our niche, we have remained one of the largest and most active.

Trouble of NoFauxxx.com

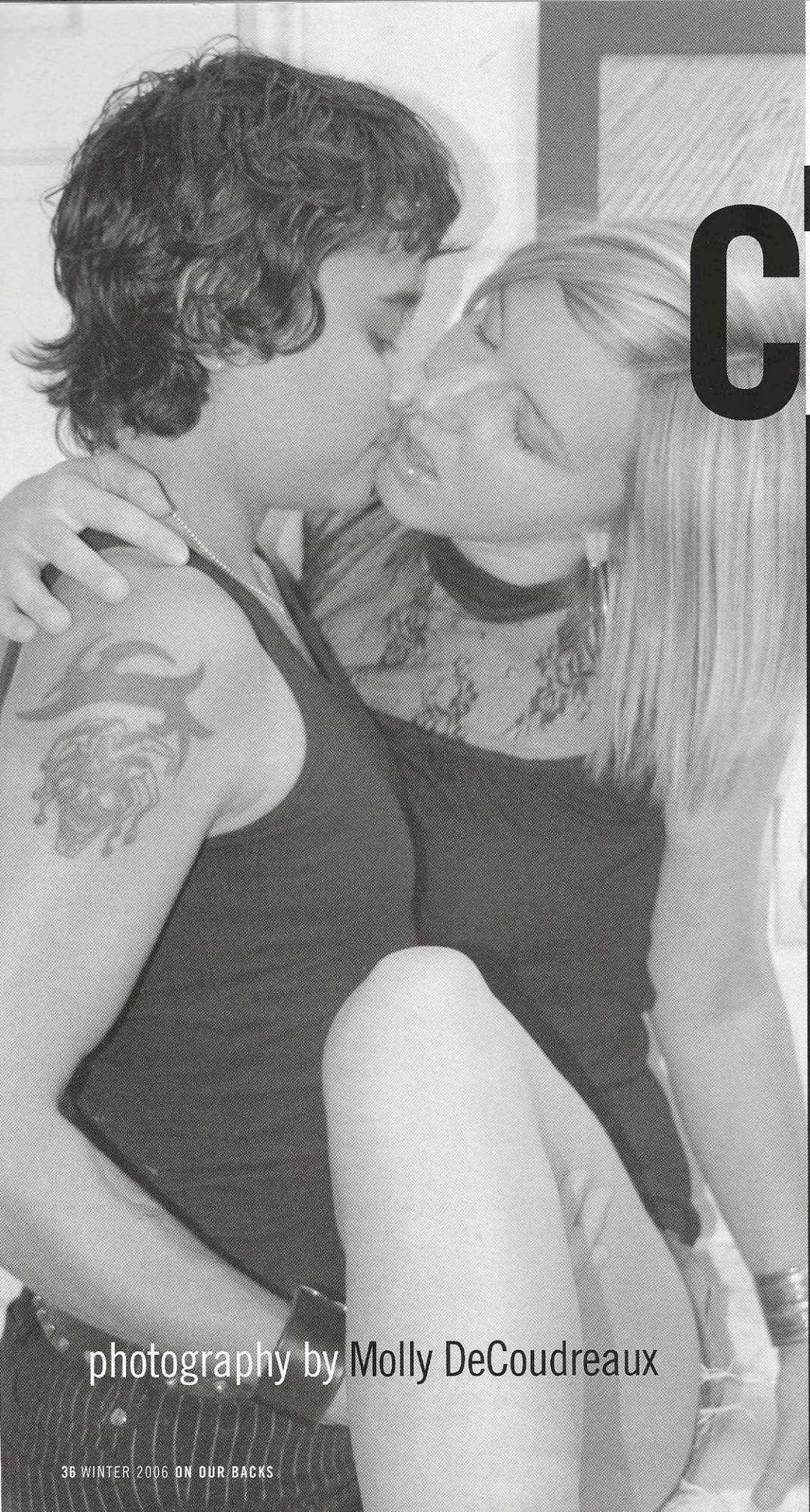
Babeland.com's Rachel Venning (right) with business partner Claire Cavanah.

Even though the costs of staying online are staggering at this level of activity (the exhausted Butch-Femme.com servers kick out nearly two million requests each day), we have survived nearly a decade primarily on community donations and fundraising. We fund the rest of it ourselves.

Butch-Femme is about being who you are. It is not about *labels* or *role-play*. We define who we are when we tell the truth about our lives. Butches and femmes, your family is calling you home!

Andre: DearAmy.net is created and run by an *On Our Backs* reader too! It's a new hot spot on the web for sex advice, with content for any adult who loves sex. Access is free, and information is updated weekly. This site is for people of all races, genders, and sexualities. It's built by a bi woman of color, so it's gotta be good!

Trouble: *NoFauxx* means "no fakes." Most of our models are not professional adult models or sex workers, though some are. The models are in charge of their content and representation. All of them are normal people interested in expressing their sexualities with their photosets. They are all sizes, all genders, all sexual orientations, all races, and from all sorts of places, doing all sorts of things. OOB



High-Speed Conn

Mel and Jolene hit if off on their first date

Mel was hesitant about trying online personals, but when she saw Jolene's profile, she immediately wrote her. After a few days of steamy emails, their first date proved that, though they were nervous at first, the heat from their correspondence was just a warm up for their face-to-face meeting. They couldn't even wait to get into bed before getting it on.

photography by Molly DeCoudreaux

models: Mel and Jolene

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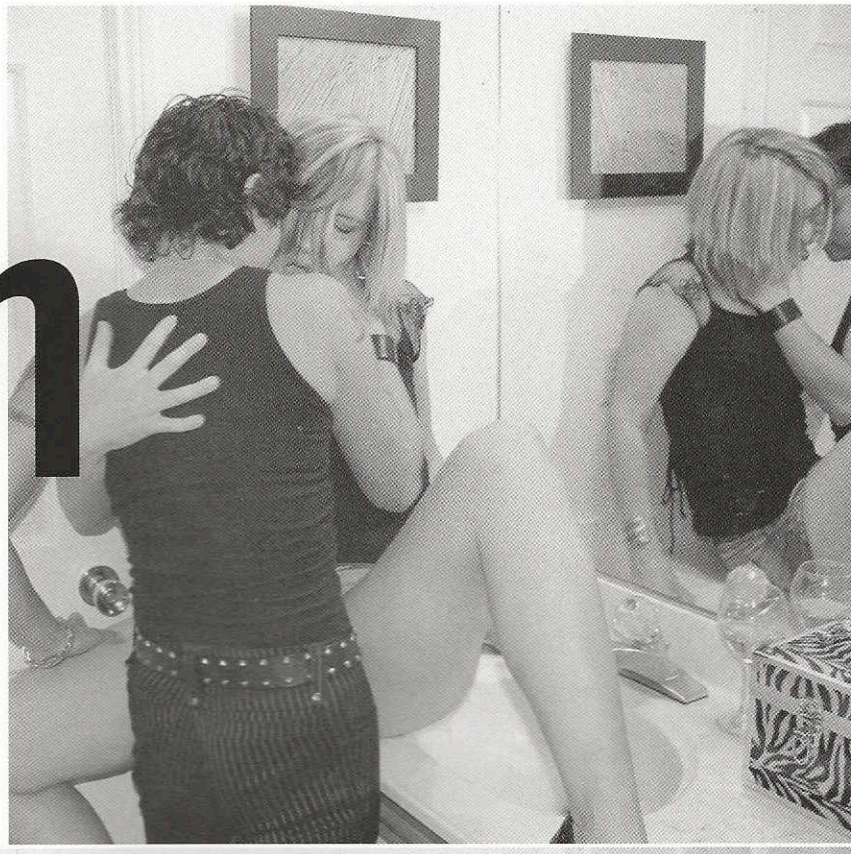

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Bjork - Oc

Forget dildos— what we really need is strap-on iBooks

Lust in

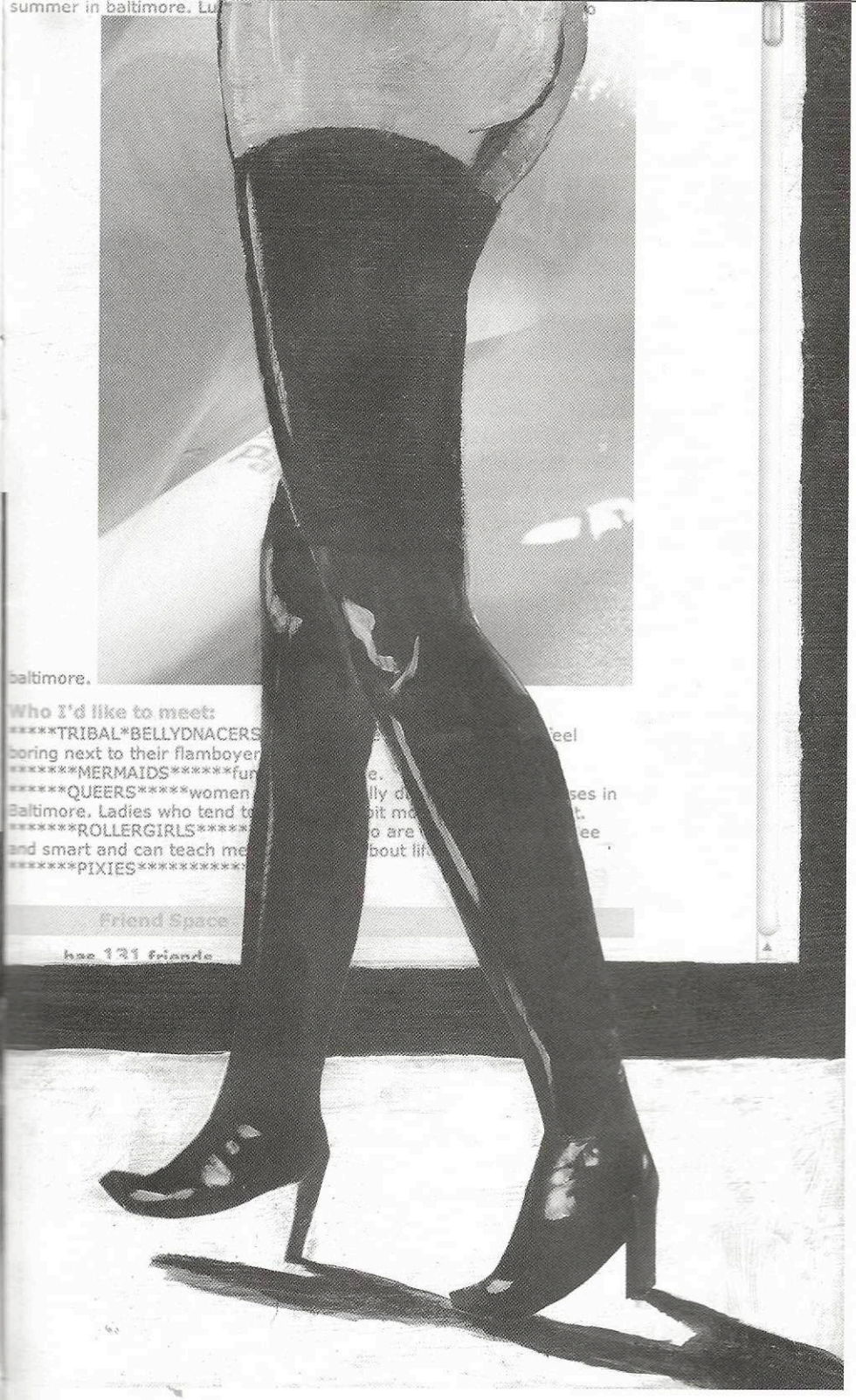

Illustration
by Jenna Bowles

(Cyber) Space

by Diana Cage

A tall girl wearing a white T-shirt and jeans leans against the wall at a popular San Francisco leather bar. The crowd is mixed; a lot of men in chaps and a scattered number of dykes are smoking on the back patio. "I met her on craigslist," she says in reference to her latest trick. "She was visiting the Bay Area for a medical conference. She placed an ad saying that she was looking for fun while she was here, and I thought she sounded pretty hot. We exchanged photos, and she was a little straight looking for my taste, but I guess that's because she works for a pharmaceutical company. We had fun in her hotel room." Her friend nods and swigs from a Corona. "Craigslist is a good place to hook up with out-of-towners. I already have a primary relationship, but my girlfriend and I play with other people. I prefer to meet others online where it's understood that it's a one-time thing."

Cruising on Craigslist

Since the late nineties, those of us looking for "a little strange" have turned to craigslist. The women-seeking-women section is heavily trolled in major metropolitan areas from San Diego to D.C., and a simple "Butch Seeking Femme" ad can garner fifty responses by the next morning. A recent search of the site turned up two postings seeking information about queer Starbucks baristas working in San Francisco's Financial District, one posting from someone looking specifically for a regular lunchtime habit, an ongoing discussion about oral-sex techniques, and an array of requests for everything from a butch-boi bottom to a femme of size in need of boot service. "Craigslist is like ordering a pizza," says Logan, a 26-year-old grad student. "Most of the people on dating sites like Gay.com are looking for a relationship, and that isn't really what I'm into right now. I've found hookups, a boyfriend, furniture, and an apartment on craigslist." Logan, a queer trannyboy bottom who uses craigslist to find butch and FTM tops, explains that craigslist revolutionized his sex life. "What I want is so specific, it's just easier to find it online, meet up for coffee, decide if you like each other, and then go back to an apartment and fuck."

Dykes with day jobs have found that the internet allows us to cruise for sex while filing expense

reports, but more than that it has changed the way we interact. "I love that I don't have to go out all the time," says Suze, a 38-year-old former bartender. "Even five years ago, I felt compelled to hit bars and clubs a couple of nights a week just to see people. But now I'm pretty connected to everyone online. I talk to my ex on instant messenger, I've met dates on craigslist, and I keep up with everyone's social life through LiveJournal. I really only go out when there's a fun event going on."

Four Degrees of Separation

While the appeal of craigslist may never wane, since 2003 a new tool for wasting time online has surfaced. The overwhelming popularity of social-networking sites like Friendster, Myspace, and Tribe.net has changed the way we flirt and hook up, perhaps permanently.

Friendster, which boasts 19 million profiles, started the trend. The internet-addicted logged on in big cities like Manhattan, San Diego, and San Francisco, but before long the entire country was Friendster-addicted. "Dude, my dad is on Friendster," says Kate, a 24-year-old account manager. "He met his girlfriend there. I don't want him to look at my profile and see all the testimonials from my friends because he'll think I'm a drunk slut."

"Usually I see a girl somewhere and talk to her first, but I might use Friendster as a way to get to know her," says Ana, a 29-year-old financial analyst for Planet Out. "It isn't a dating site, so it's low pressure."

"The girl I am seeing isn't into email, Friendster, Myspace, or anything like that," says Morgan, a 40-year-old controller for a wine distributor. "She's not really online at all, which seems weird to me. But she works in a salon, so it just isn't part of her life. Since we haven't been able to do the usual getting-to-know-you conversations over email, we talk on the phone a lot more. It was kind of awkward at first, but it's getting easier. It's just moving a lot more slowly than what I'm used to."

Friendster, which *New York* magazine compares to a "high school dance mixed with a virtual rolodex," allows users to connect with friends as well as friends of friends, up to four degrees of separation, creating the sensation of community. The site grew so quickly in popularity that it often crashed in the beginning, causing regular users to defect to similar but newer sites like Myspace.com and Tribe.net. "They are all basically the same thing," says Forrest, a freelance graphic designer. "I switched to Myspace for a while, but it's really dominated by fourteen-year-olds, so I switched back to Friendster. The other day I was having dinner in a Mexican restaurant, and three guys at the table next to me were having a conversation about which was gayer, Myspace or Friendster. They seemed to think Friendster was the gayest."

Like any cheap place to hang out and gossip, dykes have flocked to Friendster. "It's totally a drama magnet," says Kelli, a buyer for a popular sex-toy store in Chicago. "Everyone is on Friendster; it almost functions like a bulletin board for the queer community. It's where all the parties get announced, and everyone promotes their drag performances and stuff." She pauses to sip the latte in front of her. "It's the testimonials that get you in trouble," she says referring to one of Friendster's popular functions in which users can leave testimonials to each other, which seem to serve as records of relationships. The remarks may seem appropriate at the time, but it's a lot like leaving your journal open for everyone to read. "I left a testimonial to my then-girlfriend, who kept complaining that I hadn't done it yet, so I finally did, all about how in love we were. And now I feel weird removing it, but I don't feel that way about her anymore, and I don't want my current lady to see it."

"I was totally addicted to Myspace for a while," says Kelli. "The problem was that everyone I knew was on it, and they were all writing blogs about what they did the night before and leaving comments on each other's pages with inside jokes. And I was kind of stalking my ex. Well, not stalking her, but I was very interested in who she was sleeping with, so I was constantly combing everyone's blogs for mention of her and who she might be hooking up with. Finally, it got so bad I just deleted my Myspace account so I couldn't look anymore. It was depressing me."

Friendster is the reality-TV show about dyke drama that LOGO should produce.

Friendster is the reality-TV show about dyke drama that LOGO should produce. Everyone is hooking up, fighting, and breaking up, all right there for the world to see. "It's a little like bad lesbian porn," says Ana.

Online Porn for Bois and Grrrls

But what about real porn? The internet is crawling with it, and it seems that in between sex and schadenfreude, queer women are getting off online. "I look at porn online all the time," says Lauryn Pigeon, 28, a Brooklyn resident and sometime deejay. "But I really only like straight porn," she says. "I never look at lesbian porn. I look at gangbang sites and interracial porn. So does Ana," she says referring to her best friend. "We have the same taste. Basically we're like Jewish butch-lesbian frat boys."

"I look at gay-male porn. I don't look at lesbian porn because it doesn't represent the girls I go for. I like real-looking queer women," says Gino, a 32-year-old facilities manager for an advertising firm. When asked about porn sites

that feature real queer women, like the Cyberdyke network or Darkplay.net, she replies, "Never heard of them.

"I look at 89.com—it's a free site where you can look at snippets of videos that have come out recently," says Karen, a 30-year-old French instructor at New York University. "I only look at the gay part. There are all these subsections like gay cowboy, gay Europe, and gay bondage. I also like to read smut stories on a site called Nifty.com, though they aren't very good."

Instant Access with Instant Messenger

Karen says, "Most of the time I spend online is on instant messenger. My previous relationship was long distance, and we spent a lot of time chatting online. We had tons of sex on instant messenger. And we sent each other dirty emails. My current girlfriend and I had sex over instant messenger a lot in the beginning." Karen and her girlfriend Rachel share an office in NYU's French department. "When we first got together, we couldn't stop touching each other. But we were afraid someone would walk in. Once we had instant-messenger sex while another teacher was actually in the office. We both sat there at our respective computers as if we were working."

"I have that conversation archived!" says Rachel.

"Instant messaging and email allow me to be connected to everyone I know, pretty much all the time," says Jules, a freelance writer from San Diego. "I travel a lot, and I have a lot of play partners. We keep up with each other's lives through the internet. It collapses the physical distance. I like to flirt over text messages as well. Sometimes I use text messages as a way to get a girl hot before we go on a date. I'll send her something about how I want to see her tied up, so I know she has to think about it all day at work."

About half of the interviewees for this article were interviewed over instant messenger. And everyone I chatted with agreed that it was a great tool for flirting, but it's also dangerous because without inflection and body language; it's easy to misunderstand each other. "My girlfriend has outlawed instant-message conversations because we fight too much," says Sal, a 38-year-old librarian from Seattle.

Personals Plus vs. Freewheeling Friendster

What about all the dating sites out there? Isn't anyone using them to get girls? "I feel like dating sites aren't good for meeting people because there is too much pressure on the fact that you are dating. You can really get a better sense of someone through a site like Myspace or Friendster because you see someone interact with their friends," explains Ace. "I've used Gay.com and Planet Out and had mixed results. But that's the same across the board as far as the internet is concerned."

"When I first moved to the Bay Area from Seattle, I used Planet Out personals as a way to make new friends. I went on a few dates with girls I met, but nothing really turned into anything," says Sal.

"I met one of my good friends over Planet Out personals," explains Gino. "It wasn't a sexual thing. But I'm glad I met her. And I did meet a former girlfriend through Planet Out. But I really prefer things that aren't designed as dating sites."

"The problem with a lot of the personals sites is that they aren't specific enough. I'm not just a 'woman seeking a woman'; I'm a queer butch top seeking a submissive, kinky, femme bottom. And you don't get that kind of specificity with dating sites," explains Ace. "Butchfemmematchmaker.com seems better designed, but I checked it out recently, and it didn't seem to have a lot of people on it. I've also looked at a lot of sites that claim to have millions of profiles of bisexual women and lesbians on them, but when you log on, it's all porn pictures and people looking for sex with women—but not what I consider dyke sex. I mean, they aren't dykes. Technically they are women who want to have sex with women, but they don't appeal to me."

While researching this article, I came across a site called Executivelesbiandating.com and tried to sign up for it. They claim to have hundreds of thousands of executive lesbians looking for serious relationships. They charge you a large fee to sign up. It's designed to keep out the riffraff like myself. I filled out a profile and submitted it for approval, but no one ever got back to me. "I don't really think they exist," says Ana. "How could there be hundreds of thousands of lonely rich lesbians looking to get married? Why haven't I ever met one in person?" OOB

Googling for Grrrls

So you've all heard the commonsense safety tips about online hookups: meet the person in public first, tell a friend what you know about your date and where you're meeting her, etc. And you've scoped out the babe's Myspace profile, read her blog, looked at her online photo album, and checked out her friends. Here's one more thing to do: Google.

Type her name into Google and/or other search engines, and you might be surprised what comes up. Her softball scores, place of employment, genealogy records, and the program for an open mic she appeared at five years ago—if she has an online presence of any kind, a search engine like Google will likely find it for you. Depending on how common her name is, you may need to put in additional search terms, like her city or email address if you have it, so that you can weed out the 22-year-old history major at Duke from the 34-year-old photographer from Dubuque you're meeting on Saturday night.

If this is someone you're meeting for a one-time hookup, you may not care where she works or where she's been published, but if you want a little more 411, Google her.

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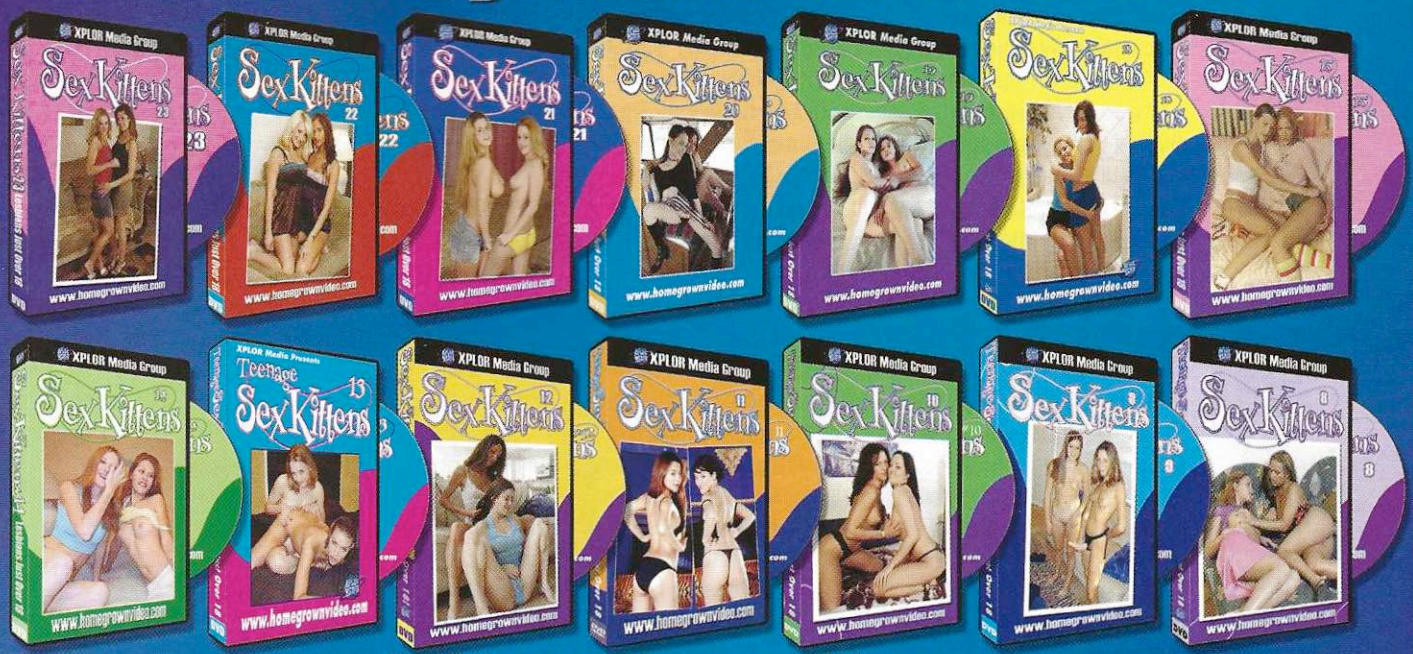

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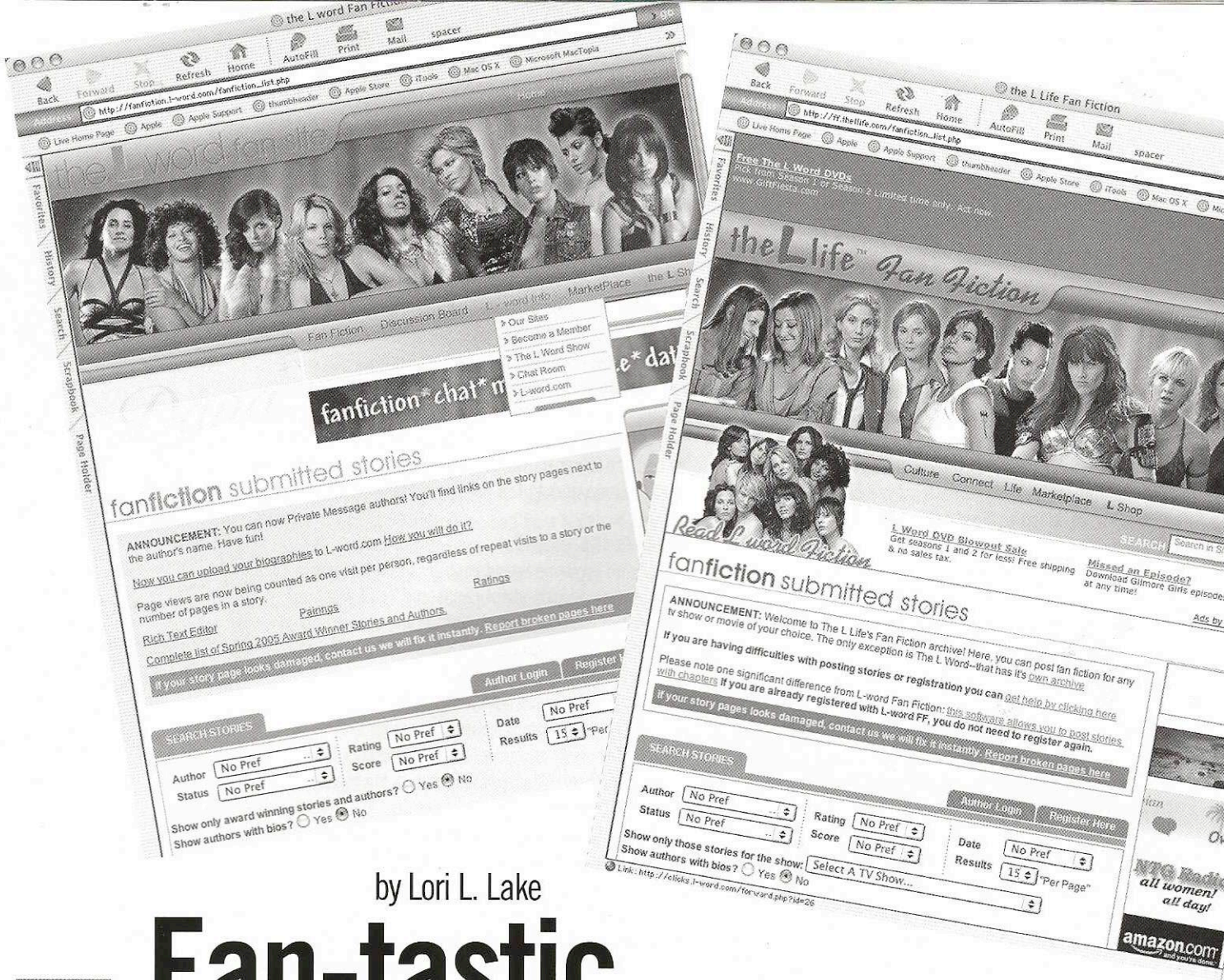
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by Lori L. Lake

Fan-tastic Femmeslash

"Tina saw the dark lust in her lover's eyes and felt her heart rate speed up and a lump rise in her throat. In seconds, she was wrapped in Bette's embrace, her hands roaming her lover's body, as Bette placed hungry kisses on her exposed neck. Tina's clit was aching. She'd waited weeks for this release and she needed it… As Tina eased down and her center met Bette's, a rush surged through her, driving her need to climax. Her entire body trembled as their clits met, their wetness mixing as their hips rhythmically built their impending release. They were in a world all their own. The sounds of flesh on flesh, liquid sex, and verbal declarations of arousal filled the room."

—*The Roommates,* by More Than Satisfied

Femmeslash. Saffic. Girlslash. Shoujo-ai. Lesbian fanfic. All of these are names for a new kind of lesbian writing on the internet. The quotation on the preceeding page is not by TV writers for *The L Word* but from a serialized novel written by a fan who calls herself More Than Satisfied.

Pop Culture Representation

You'd never know from TV that there are happy, healthy lesbians all over the world. *Will & Grace* and *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* don't focus on dykes, and on every other TV show, lesbians are nearly nonexistent. Movies haven't been kind to lesbian characters either, usually showing us as dysfunctional, suicidal, and/or depraved serial killers.

In 2004, lesbians rejoiced to learn that Showtime was producing *The L Word,* a show by, for, and about lesbians. The hook-ups and breakups of the seven original characters spawned an unprecedented number of articles and commentary, even in the mainstream press. Before the first season was over, the characters joined an online realm called fan fiction, where femmeslash is one of the fastest-growing genres.

Slash fiction tells tales of characters in sexual/romantic relationships rarely featured on the shows. It all started with *Star Trek.* Slash was named for pairings between two characters: Kirk/Spock. Uhura/McCoy. Spock/Chekhov. Scotty/Sulu. While the Kirk/Spock pairing was most popular, other relationships, often homosexual or across racial or cultural barriers, were also featured.

The first general fan-fiction 'zine was created in 1967 by Trekkies. Soon after, while the show's creators looked the other way, fans mimeographed their own homosexual slash publications, adding original cover artwork, and handed them out at conventions. By the late seventies, private lending libraries were circulating the novelettes and stories by mail.

Other fanfic communities emerged and rewrote movies like *Star Wars* and TV shows such as *Knight Rider, Starsky and Hutch,* and *Walker, Texas Ranger.* But they didn't yet have an effective medium for sharing their creations.

The New Folk Heroes

People have always sat around the fire and shared folk tales. With every telling, new details were added and plots were changed to meet the psychological needs of teller and listener. Most often the heroes were men: Hercules, Hamlet, King Arthur, Daniel Boone, Zorro, Paul Bunyan, and Wild Bill Hickok. The Annie Oakleys and Harriet Tubmans were far and few between. Women were relegated to the sidelines, and lesbians were simply left out.

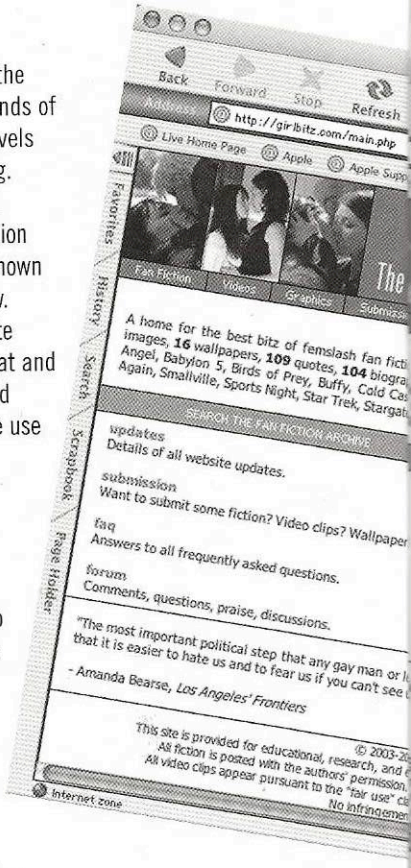
Nowadays, we get our folk tales from the cineplex or TV, but they focus almost exclusively on heterosexual culture. But the internet gave the queer world new opportunities to expand.

Enter *Xena: Warrior Princess,* which hit the airwaves in 1996. Coinciding with the proliferation of the internet, *Xena* kicked off an amazing cascade of lesbian femmeslash. Lesbian heroes and villains—the brave, the strong, the unusual, and the sexual—were celebrated in thousands of stories and novels. There are more Xena/Gabrielle novels and stories on the 'net than any other lesbian pairing.

Smart TV producers encouraged Xena fandom and authorized the sale of magazines, photos, posters, action dolls, and more. Melissa Good, one of the most well-known Xena/Gabrielle writers, wrote two episodes of the show. Lesbian fans were actually acknowledged. The opposite occurs in the print world. Authors like Anne Rice (Lestat and vampires), Anne McCaffrey (Pern fantasies), and David Weber (the Honor Harrington sci-fi series) disallow the use of their characters in fan fiction and femmeslash.

What is the Draw?

Why would someone spend countless hours creating unpublishable yarns about movie and TV characters? One reason is that fan fiction offers the opportunity to experiment freely. You can write under your own name or a pen name and do it safely from the privacy of your home. You can be assured complete anonymity—or create a website complete with photos of yourself and your life. Many authors have found that their initial experimentation led them into writing careers.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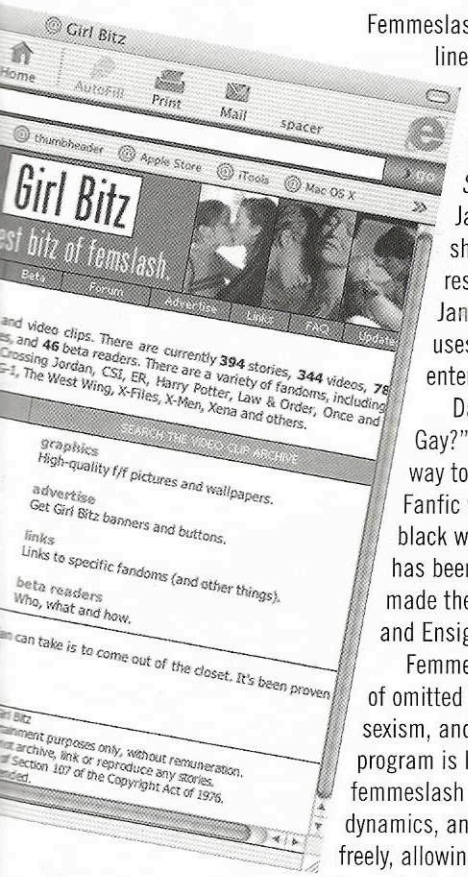
No infringemen
Internet zone

But those who assume that fan fiction is a training ground for writers to move on to print publication are misinformed. While many femmeslash writers have published their own original work in book form, many—such as Suzanne Beck, BL Miller, TNovan, Linda Crist, L.J. Maas, Sharon Bowers, and Ali Vali—have huge followings for their online work, receiving "Swollen Bud" and "Amazon Ice" awards from the Bard's Corner, an extensive site devoted to *Xena* created in 1996 by MaryD of Australia. The level of celebrity in this tight-knit world may be unknown to the average Joe, but within the lesbian fanfic community, these writers are considered goddesses.

Fans and authors alike indicate that the popularity of femmeslash is also caused by frustration because favorite shows and movies simply do not include lesbian romance and sexuality. Dissatisfied with this exclusion, femmeslash authors seek to add lesbian voices and rewrite stories that ended badly for favorite characters. Writers imagine "What if?" and fill in the blanks with everything from humorous epic romances and lighthearted romps to hardcore pornography.

Radclyffe, well-known for her published lesbian novels and erotica, says, "Lesbian sexuality is a powerful and critical element of our romantic relationships and individual self-expression, and our fiction should speak to that without apology." Radclyffe has written erotic Scully-slash stories to fulfill that goal. Some of the sites, such as *The L Word* Fan Fiction site, even use the G/PG/R/NC-17 rating system.

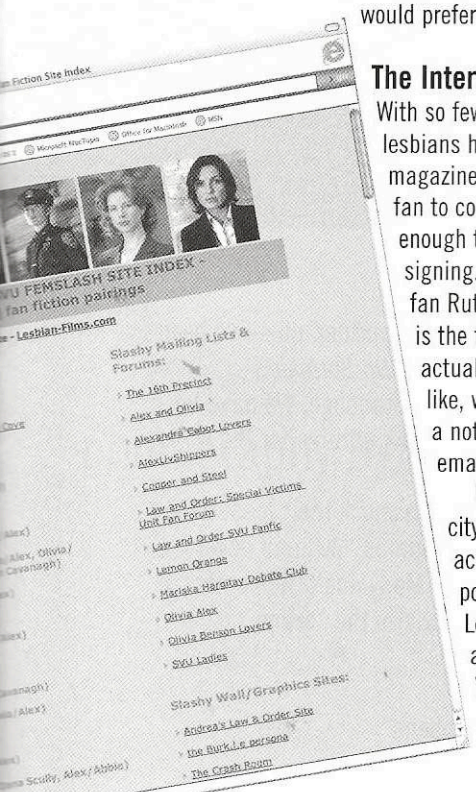
But there is much more to it than sex.



Femmeslash writers correct plot holes and insert story lines with lesbian imagery, events, and fantasy. A good example of this is the wildly popular "Just Between" series written by Gina Dartt. In 1997, the character Seven of Nine joined *Star Trek: Voyager*, and Dartt began her Janeway/Seven of Nine adventures. To date she's written fifty stories. Whether Seven is rescuing Janeway from an alien planet or Janeway is educating Seven about the sexual uses of the "Wonder Wand 9000," the stories are entertaining, exciting, and well written.

David Plotz, in his article "Luke Skywalker Is Gay?" writes, "Fanfic also can be a political act, a way to elevate marginalized minority characters. Fanfic writers worship Lt. Uhura, the neglected black woman on the original *Star Trek*. In fanfic, she has been promoted, given her own starship, and made the mistress of a torrid threesome with Lt. Sulu and Ensign Chekov."

Femmeslash often seeks to address not only issues of omitted lesbian sexuality but also of race, politics, sexism, and violence against women. Where a TV program is limited by censors and advertisers, femmeslash is not. For instance, BDSM, butch-femme dynamics, and transgender issues can be written about freely, allowing women to explore subjects not allowed in the mainstream. The stories often contain commonly held fantasies and beliefs of how the world *should* be. Even though reality may not reflect it, femmeslash writers share visions of a world where lesbians are powerful and equal to—or better than—the men and women we face who would prefer we didn't exist. This is revolutionary!



The Intersection Between Fan and Author

With so few lesbian characters on TV and in movies, lesbians have always fallen back on books and magazines. Prior to the internet, it was difficult for a fan to contact the author unless she was lucky enough to meet her at a conference or bookstore signing. This is now a thing of the past. Twin Cities fan Ruta Skujins says, "What really blows me away is the fact that I can write to any author and actually get a response! When I read something I like, whether it is in print or online, I like to drop a note to the author, and I inevitably get an email back. I've never experienced that before."

Using the internet, lesbians in every lonely city or town can connect with one another across great distances and create an online pop culture and a vibrant community as well. Lesbians have been thrilled to read, discuss, and collaboratively create their own stories: Willow/Tara from *Buffy, The Vampire Slayer*; Deanna Troi/Tasha Yar from *Star Trek: The Next Generation*; Sydney/Lauren from *Alias*; Catherine Willows/Sarah Sidle from *CSI*; Olivia Benson/Alexandra Cabot from *Law & Order: SVU*; and many others. Think of any show with strong or interesting female characters, and let your imagination run wild. Even if it's never been done, there is someone out there who will be interested. Hermione and Ginny Weasley, anyone?

And that brings me back to *The L Word*. One program about lesbians is not enough to fill the desire for solid and interesting stories. So online writing fulfills a need and gets many fans through the long off-season when there isn't anything lesbian to be found on the tube. Femmeslash features a remarkable diversity in genre and style. Adventure, romance, intrigue, sci-fi, horror, mystery, and drama are all found in every permutation. Try it out. You might just get hooked! OOB

A Sampling of Femmeslash Sites

THE L WORD FAN SITE
http://fanfiction.l-word.com/fanfiction_list.php
Slash stories: Bette, Jenny, Tina, Kit, Alice, Helena, Dana, Shane, Carmen, Marina

THE FEMME FUH-Q FEST
www.geocities.com/femme_fuhq_fest
Treksmut: 400 femmeslash Trek tales

VOYAGER FICTION
www.northco.net/~janeway/fanfic.htm
Gina Dartt's "Just Between" series and more

THE BARD'S CORNER
www.ausxip.com/fanfic.php
Xena femmeslash and original fiction

LAW & ORDER: SVU
http://xenawp.org/svu
Femmeslash site index

SCULLY SLASH
http://scullyslash.ditb.org
X-Files femmeslash

GIRL BITZ
http://girlbitz.com
"The Best Bitz of Femmeslash"

GIRLS' DORMITORY
http://girlsdormitory.slashcity.net
Harry Potter world femmeslash

THE ATHENAEUM
http://xenafiction.net
More than 5,000 *Xena* links

PASSION & PERFECTION
www.ralst.com
Multiple fandom femmeslash

SHOUJOAI
www.shoujoai.com
"Girl Love" anime and *manga* cartoon slash

THE ULTIMATE XENA FAN FICTION DIRECTORY
www.xenafanfiction.com

PUBLISHED LESBIAN AUTHOR SITES
www.dryphed.com/s/plas.html

The cover girl from our fall issue returns with her lover for an update on their lives.

Hairotica

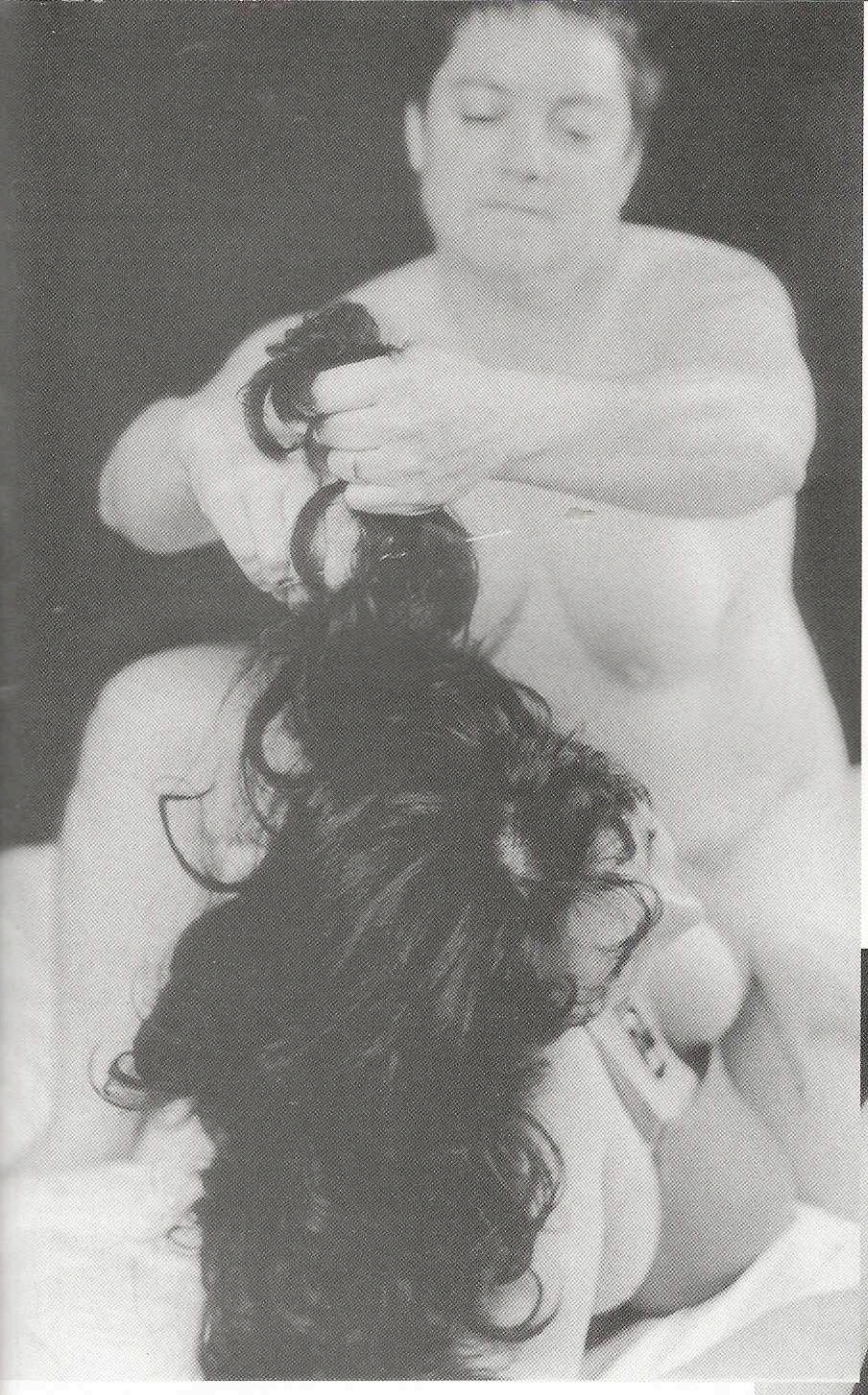
Dear *On Our Backs,*

The last issue was great, and we were thrilled to be included in its pages. Interestingly a few days after we did the interview, I (Annie) was diagnosed with stage-one breast cancer. My prognosis is excellent, and we are definitely making the best of the experience. When I had to surrender my prized Leo mane due to starting chemotherapy, we made it into an erotic experience. Our motto is eroticize everything! Here are the photographic results—hairotica.

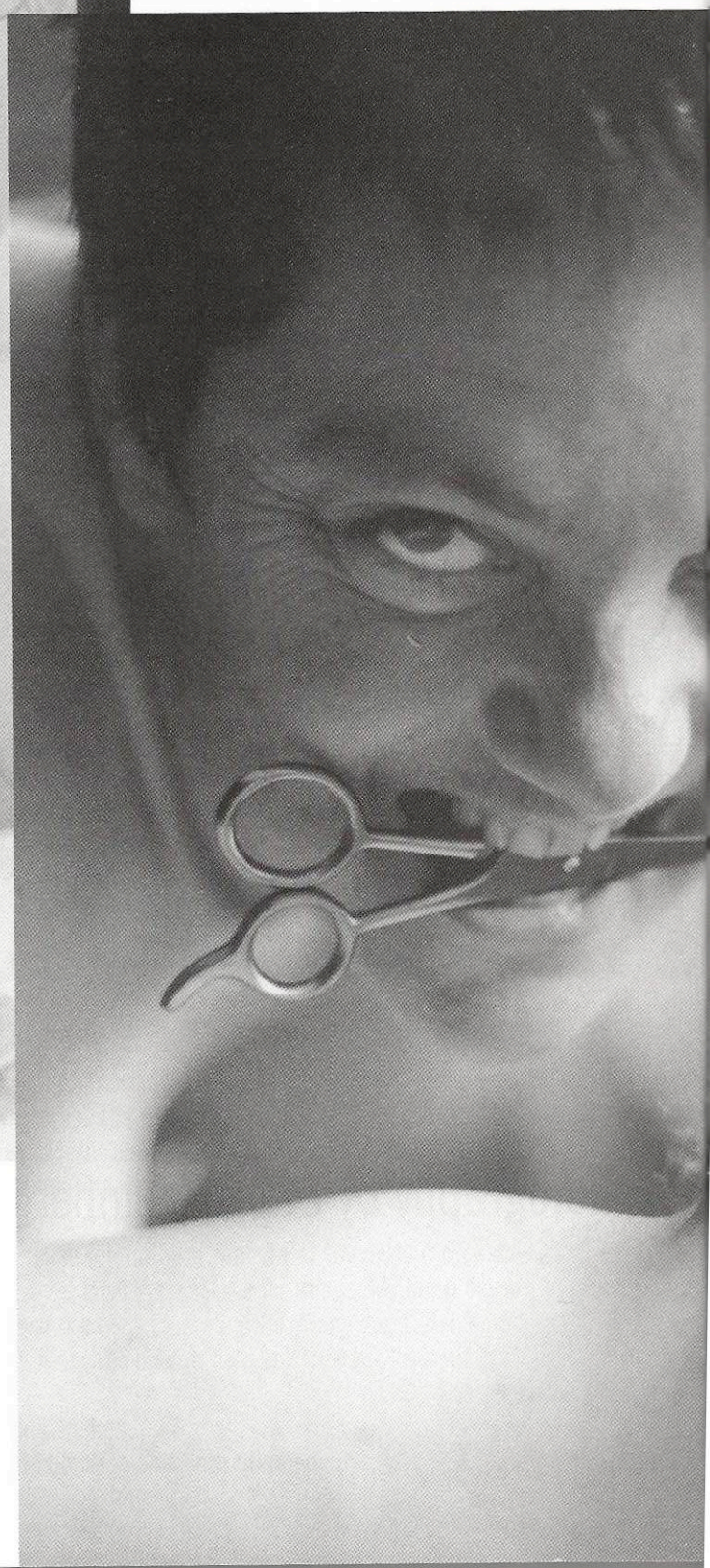
In the fall issue's interview, I told you I was having the best sex of my life at fifty. Well, chemo has temporarily zapped my libido. Talk about a sex life makeover! Luckily I have the most wonderful, loving partner, plus I've been able to use the tips from my book *Dr. Sprinkle's Spectacular Sex* to manage this challenge. We have been documenting our breast-cancer adventures for the world to see on www.loveartlab.org.

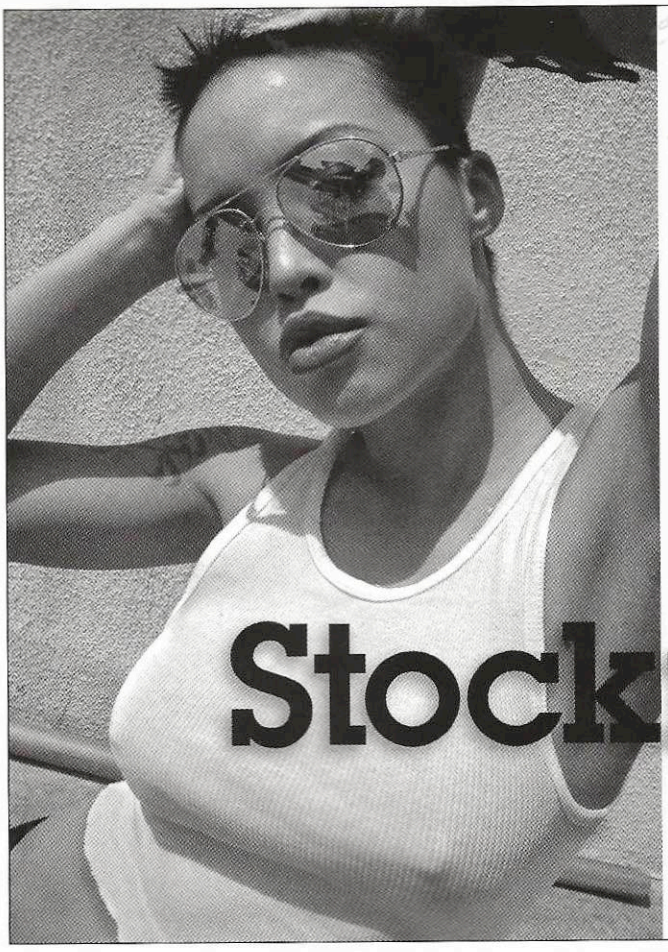
Please remind your readers to check their breasts—and their lovers' breasts—for lumps. My lump never showed up on a mammogram. Many don't. Remember, a little massage oil can help eroticize the "exam."

Breast wishes,
Annie Sprinkle and Beth Stephens



photography by David Steinberg





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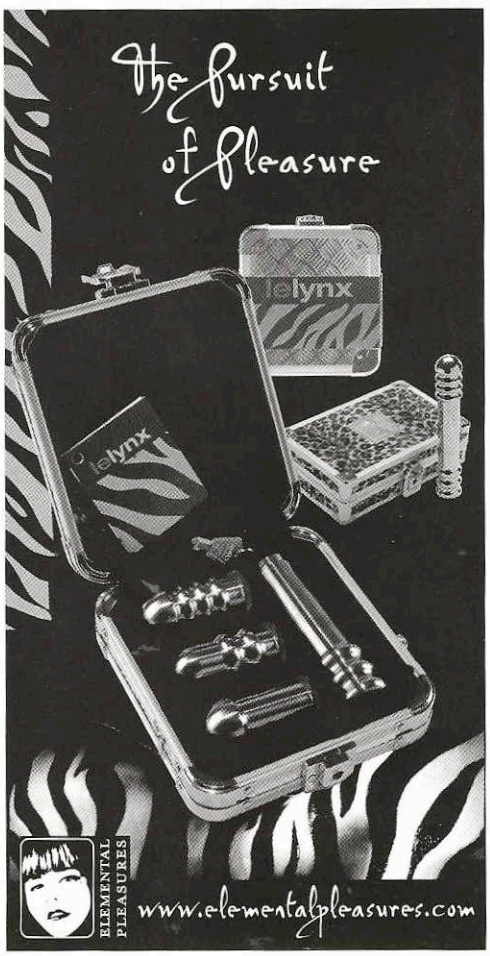

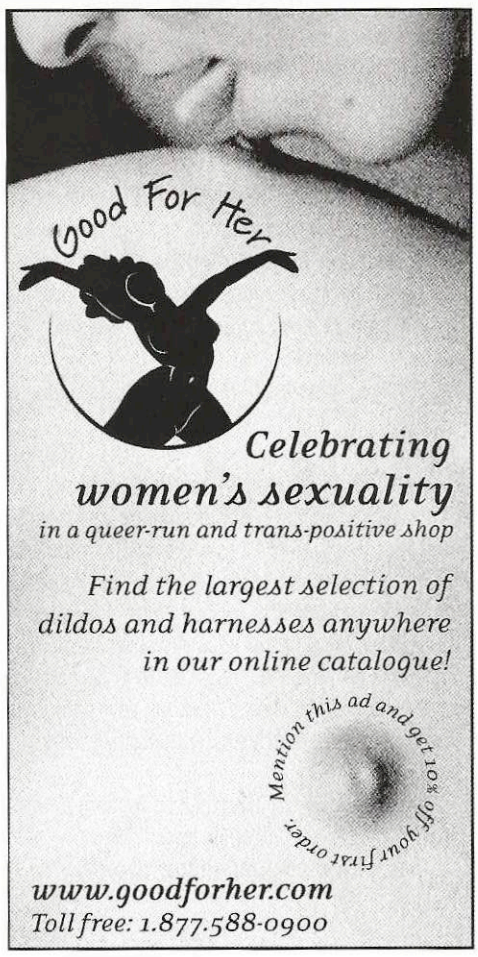
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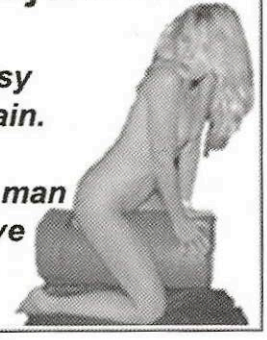


Enough

True Confession

by Trin,
illustration by Nik Scarlett

"Look forward." I saw the glimmer of sharp metal in his hand, then felt the tip of the knife in my ribs. "You will address me as sir. You will not speak unless spoken to. Do exactly as I say, and no unwelcome harm will come to you."

I nodded, feeling my cunt tingle at the pain in my chest and the scent of his cologne. "Yes, sir." I reminded myself that I wanted this, one anonymous fuck, while my lover, Kris, was away on business.

"Drive to 5th and Jackson, then find a place to park." My body responded without question.

Fifth and Jackson put us directly outside an old warehouse, where live/work studios are rented out by the month to writers and artists. "Park here," he said in a voice much softer than I would have expected.

"Yes, sir."

Holding his knife against the small of my back, he guided me through the dimly lit maze of hallways to an ancient freight elevator. We exited the elevator at the sixth floor and followed another maze of hallways to a locked door. "Turn around," he said, taking my elbow to turn my back to him, "I'm trusting you. Don't move."

"Yes, sir," I said, hoping to catch a glimpse of his face.

He unlocked the door but didn't turn on any lights. He led me, walking backward, into the dark studio. The door shut behind us. He stood behind me, his lips against my neck, "Now, I'm going to let your arms go. I want you to take off that slutty little number; I'm sure you're not wearing anything underneath it." The short stubble of facial hair raised goosebumps along my neck and shoulders as I complied. "You can leave those heels on. "

"Yes, sir."

He slipped a blindfold over my eyes and cuffed my wrists and ankles in loose restraints. My skin tingled at the heat of his breath as it traced my body.

I gasped as I felt the point of his knife prick the bare flesh of my spine, prodding me forward into the darkness. After several steps, my left thigh brushed against a cold, smooth surface.

"Halt." His hands guided me around the obstruction. "Lay face down on the table."

Once I was positioned to his liking, he stretched my wrists and ankles outward, locking the restraints to each corner of the table. Then he left without a word.

Time passed indefinitely in the cold darkness, and I began to question my decision to follow the directions of a stranger who found my ad on craigslist. After what felt like forever, I felt sharp pain and warmth against the back of my left knee, moving up along my thigh to my ass. It only took seconds to recognize the sensation that every submissive knows: hot wax—my favorite.

"Did you miss me?"

"Yes, sir."

"Good."

He continued to torture my flesh until my cunt was wet to the point of soaking and nearly vibrating itself off the table. He finally removed the blindfold. When I opened my eyes, I found a large cock attached to a black leather harness in my face. "You better suck it well because that's the only lube you're going to get," he said as he guided the head of his cock into my mouth, moaning softly as I worshipped every inch of it. "Enough."

He moved away and unlocked my wrists and ankles. "Roll over onto your back."

"Yes, sir." I complied without question.

He removed the spreader bar and locked only my wrists back to the table. Straddling my stomach, he lowered himself over me, placing his breast against my lips. "Suck it gently." My lips and tongue wound their way around his nipple as his body shuddered. "Now bite." My teeth met his flesh, and he let out a low moan. I could feel the wetness of his cunt against my stomach. He ungratefully pulled his nipple from my mouth. "Enough." I could see his face now, as he sat back—familiar brown eyes, but the facial hair threw me. But the way he touched me.... He unlatched my wrists and told me to roll over on to my stomach.

"Yes, sir." My cunt had left a puddle for me to lie in on the stainless steel table.

"Don't resist." He grasped my ankles in his hands and pulled me slowly toward the end of the table until my hips were resting on the edge, legs dangling. I heard the familiar sound of a condom wrapper, and my cunt dripped.

He entered me roughly and fucked me until I was raw, as though I'd given him the manual to my cunt before he took her for a spin around the block. My body was singing, though I'm sure he couldn't hear it over my screaming and the sound of our bodies smacking together with each thrust. The sound of blood rushing behind my ears brought me over the edge into the blackness. I felt my body release, and I was gone.

I woke covered in a soft blanket, her hand brushing my curls from my face. I looked up into her eyes. "Kris...."

She smiled slyly, letting me know she was more amused than hurt by my antics. "Now, have you had enough? Perhaps next time it won't be me answering your ad, and then what?"

by Rope Wolf

You

Illustration by Alexandra Lazar

You arrive at the appointed evening hour—heels, a simple skirt, slit on the side, silk blouse, and handbag. You asked that all your senses be engaged for this date but now wonder what you have asked for and what you will receive. You begin to speak, and your lover puts a finger to hys lips motioning *no talking*. Hy takes your hand and leads you to the bedroom and sets you on the bed, handing you a glass of red wine. Ah, the taste—merlot, zinfandel, no, a Burgundy. The wine is so smooth that you greedily sip it and think about your nerves.

Why are you nervous, you muse—you know this butch, and you want this butch to take you. But trust—yes, you can say "trust," but now you begin to think about the implications as hy sits comfortably watching you sip your wine as hy sips hys. Hy sits across from you in a dark brown leather chair, hys legs crossed as they rest on the ottoman. And yes, you have seen this calm before; hys calm is your frenetic energy suddenly entering your body.

Feeling your wine a bit, you notice hy is wearing boots, belted gray-cuffed pants, and a white sleeveless undershirt. You can smell hys cologne, or are you just used to it and smell it everywhere? You are intoxicated by the smell.

You place your glass on the side table and realize its small effect as it takes an edge off your nervousness, but then another wave of it hits and you cannot understand why. After all, you know this butch; you know how hy makes love to you. But now you have asked to have all your senses engaged, and that has made the difference.

Hy crosses the room, refills your glass, and hands it to you. You know one more glass of wine will still not dull your senses but rather heighten them. You sip slowly now, completely savoring its rich taste, color, and smell. You notice the candles burning in the room and the sun setting through the curtains. Again seated, hy watches you, no longer drinking, in control since hy knows the plot and you have submitted to its unfolding.

Rising, hy takes the empty glass from your hands and sets it down. From hys pocket, hy pulls out a gray bandana; hy holds it in both hands, twirling it. Never taking hys eyes off you, hy expertly ties it over yours rather snugly.

Suddenly your mind flashes to the striking of a belt across your back, you tense, the rope pulls taut as you teeter on your seat.

You notice that no words have been exchanged between you—unusual for such compatible lovers, such lovers of words. You try to open your eyes thinking it will allow you to be more aware, although you are not interested in seeing anything; once your eyes are open, that is confirmed. Now you are sure you smell hys cologne on this blindfold. Without sight, your hearing sharpens. You feel your handbag being lifted off your lap, and you

uncross your legs and place a hand on either side of your lap.

You notice that you are cocking your head this way and that, listening, smelling, engaged. You hear hys boots on the hardwood floor, perhaps returning to hys chair? And then you can hear hym sipping wine as hy considers you, watches you, intimidates you? Time is suspended—you don't know how many minutes have passed before hy returns to where you sit and slowly but firmly kisses you on the side of your neck. You can hear hys breathing. Now you feel hys hand on your face, hys thumb tracing your lips, and then hys kiss on your lips. More and more kissing and then deeper kisses—when they stop, you are breathless and shaking. Alone in the darkness again, you hear what must be hys belt sliding through the pant loops in a single motion, the metal tip briefly clinking on the floor. Hy walks across the room, and you believe hy has sat down again. You hear a light crunching as hy manipulates something—thick paper, cellophane? You cannot identify the sound, and then you hear a small thud on the floor and something being pulled across it.

Now your mind is reeling with anticipation. You are sure you have given yourself away with the short gasps in your breathing, so you try to calm yourself. You realize you are turned on and are somehow surprised by that. You wonder about your heart—will it stop trying to leap out of your chest? Another lesson in trust? The wine has completely invaded your body, and you feel slightly lightheaded.

Hys hands take your shoulders and lift you from your seat, turning you around, and hy kisses the back of your neck, hys hand holding your hands together in front of you. Hy unzips your skirt—it falls around your ankles, and hy steadies you as your free your feet from its folds. Reaching around, hy slowly unbuttons your blouse, hys hands smooth over your slip, hands about your hips as hy lightly continues to kiss you, moves hys hands about your waist and over your belly, breasts. Hys thumb dips under the lace that just covers your breast, slowly tracing the outline that separates your skin and the delicate fabric.

Hy helps you remove your slip, first one foot, then the other. You ask if you should remove your heels but only hear a soft *shh*. You stand there fully aware of where hy is, lean your body into hys and feel hym tuck hys thumb into the top of your stockings, completely arousing you.

You now feel something moving through hys hands and over your back. You cock your head to understand what it must be, and then you realize it is coarse rope. You get your head around this fact and find that your hands are being bound. You realize your beating heart whispers "submit."

Hys hands back on your hips as hy continues to kiss your neck, hys hands going down your thighs and over your ass, but never letting go of your tied hands, almost pulling that restraint tighter. You are greedy for the kisses, the touches, the feel of hym against your back, you inwardly moan as hy pushes you into a sitting position.

You feel your crossed tied hands against your increasingly wet pussy. You feel hym manipulating the rope again and hear it drag across the hardwood floor. Suddenly it is around your waist and across your back, digging in a bit there as it is wound around the front of your body between your breasts. The rope is expertly manipulated—taut but not uncomfortably tight. Then your heeled feet are slightly parted and tied.

You come to understand you are not restrained but bound. You wonder at this butch, this gentle lover you have known, and your heart pounds at meeting hys dark side. The rope crisscrosses your body, and hys hands pull and manipulate, and now you know where that takes hym.

Suddenly your mind flashes to the striking of a belt across your back, you tense, the rope pulls taut as you teeter on your seat, unconsciously moaning. Hy has tied you with a bow, you think, as hy tugs and pulls here and there to signal to you that you are done and you are hys. You adjust your hands in front of you and notice they are not tied palm to palm but wrist over wrist.

Hy lifts you in your sitting position to further back on the bed and lays you on your side. You are curled from the

tying in a fetal position but are not too uncomfortable. You know hy is lying on hys side facing you, breathing close by, considering you. Hy begins to kiss you, the only touch mouth on mouth. You so long to be held, pulled, pressed upon. The kissing so full of tongue and lips. Then you feel the tugs, each different tug a new sensation somewhere on your body—rough and slightly hurtful. The kissing with so much mutual gasping and the biting around the bindings sends you through small quivers of pain. You desperately want hym inside you, but somehow you have learned the rules—you cannot ask because you already have. And as you reel with each pull, each one tighter and more painful, it stops.

You hear hym move on the bed and retrieve something off the floor. Suddenly just behind you there is the loud thud of a belt or rope striking the bed. Your whole body shudders and sends new wetness to you. Hy hits the bed again, and you translate the difference in the sound it makes into images of hys adjusting the belt in different ways.

You feel the sinuous cool of the leather as hy lays it across your back and slowly drags it across your skin. With the same surprise, the belt strikes your back across your shoulders again and again, forcing the rope into your skin. Your breathing slows with anticipation and understanding of this pain. Then the belt is striking you across your ass, and you fill with wetness; you want it now so hard you cannot believe the strength of this engagement.

Hy stops and walks across the room. You hear the cushions give as hy sits down. You breathe into the stinging, so filled with longing you are in anguish because hy has gone away. Is hy tempting you to speak, considering hys next move, preparing hymself? But you know hys moves are well planned.

You say over and over to yourself, "Please baby, please baby" as you try to lay still. You hear hym cross the floor and the sudden thud of the belt on the bed, and then it stings your ass again and again and again. The strip of rope that crosses your ass to your ankles digs deeper and deeper into your skin. You so want hym to enter your wetness that you feel you must call out soon, you cannot endure this deprivation, and you give yourself away with deeper moans.

Hy grips your shoulders, raising you up, your hands forced in front of you for support as you crouch on your knees. You let out a moan as you anticipate hym on your body. Hy stands behind you and parts your legs roughly with hys knee, your legs only slightly giving as you are bound at the ankles. Hys hands are over your wet pussy, giving you the smallest orgasm, but you want to be pounded. Then you feel hym enter you with hys thick cock, grabbing your hips, thrusting deep, then deeper, into you.

You know you have come very hard, but your senses are so flooded with all of it you are exhausted. You remember hearing your lover coming over and over and how that sent you there as well. You are lying on your side, still bound but without a blindfold, and your lover wrapped around your back. You muse at your bound hands, a slow smile on your face. After some time your lover slowly removes the coarse rope, and you realize how truly tight was the binding. Your palms ache from the pressure of holding yourself up, and you now have another understanding of the lashes you received.

Yes, all your senses were engaged, you think to yourself, still not wanting to break the enchantment by speaking. Your lover kisses the small welts, runs hys tongue along them. You have been lit by this engagement, and you savor this moment—so free and so loved. OOB

The Last Place You Look

"Ms. Withers? You have a call on three."

Dammit. "Holly, can you take a message?"

"I tried, Ms. Withers, but she keeps calling back."

I glanced over at the blinking line on the phone. "Does 'she' have a name?"

"All she said was 'Fay,'" my secretary said.

"Really," I said and, after a pause, reached for my headset. "Theresa Withers here."

"Jeez, since when did you get so formal?" The familiar voice tickled my ear.

"Since they started paying me six figures to do so."

"Shoulda guessed. Hope I'm not catching you at a bad time."

"Well, now that you mention it, I've got a meeting in a few minutes—"

"Listen, it's come to my attention lately that I've lost something and I think I may have left it with you."

Uh-oh. "You took everything that last night, remember?"

"How could you know if you have it if I haven't even told you what *it* is?"

Good point. She so rarely made them I had to concede. "Fine. What is it that you think I have?"

"My heart," Fay said.

"Right. I don't have time for this."

"Neither do I, Ter. I mean, jeez, it's like this important organ."

"I'm hanging up now, Fay."

"That's okay. I know where you work now."

"What's that supposed to mean?"

A half second later I got my answer as I heard Holly's voice in my headset. "Excuse me—excuse me—but you can't go in there—"

I got to my feet just as the door opened. There stood Fay Raymond, a.k.a. Butterfly Jones, the shaven-head lead guitarist of the Cervix, dogged peace activist, and third-generation embroiderer.

My secretary's eyes met mine. "Shall I call security, Ms. Withers?"

"No, not yet. Give us a few minutes."

"But the meeting—"

I checked my watch. "... is in ten minutes. Buzz me in eight."

Holly nodded and, throwing Fay a dog-shit-under-her-heel look, shut the door.

I turned to Fay. "You know, it's scenes just like this that led to us breaking up."

"No," Fay said, walking her long, denim-clad legs across my shag, "it was you going down on Rachel while we were still living together."

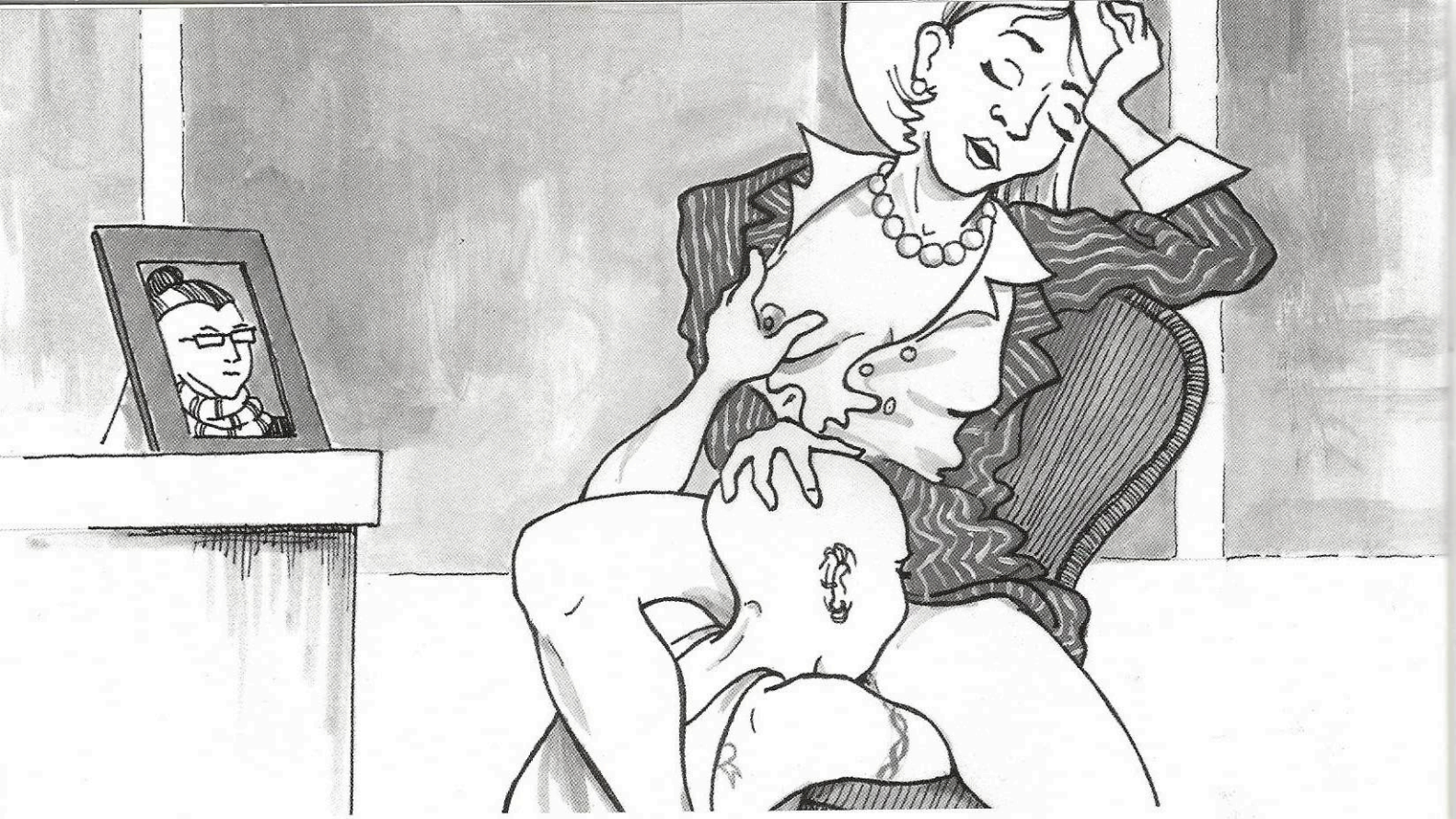
"That's seven-year-old news. You really need to get the fuck over it already."

"Six years and three months, and I will get the fuck over it as soon as you give me back my heart."

"Jesus, I don't believe this."

"Neither did I," she said. "I mean, I can't believe it took me so

by Stephanie Alexis Bonvissuto,
illustration by Melissa West



long to figure it out. But after we broke up, the band kicked me out, every girl I took home left the next morning, and my friends stopped hanging out. Everyone was saying the same thing—I had become this cold, heartless bitch. Then I began to wonder, wow, if I really was heartless, then where was my heart? So I tried to remember when I had it last, you know, figure out the last place you had it and there it will be. It's always in the last place you look."

She stopped a foot away, close enough for me to smell the patchouli and sweat wafting off her skin. "So I finally remembered. The last time I saw it was the night I caught you and Rach. I forgot to get it back before I split. You've had it all along!"

"No, I didn't. I mean, I don't."

"Well, I gave it to you," she said, folding her arms over her chest. "Are you telling me you lost it?"

"Yes… I mean, no… look, I don't have it, all right?"

"Well, mind if I take a look around?"

I threw up my hands. "No—yes—oh Jesus, go ahead, but you're not going to fi—"

She laid a kiss on me that stole the rest of my words away.

I pulled back—but not too far. "I'm… with someone…"

Fay found the secret spot on my neck. "Her name's Dorothy, she's older, a little distinguished gray in the hair, very academic, likes to take you to faculty parties, museums, and weekend concerts."

"She prefers Dot," I said, half-heartedly trying to push her off.

But Fay wasn't having it, her hands lighting on my tits. Then she began popping my buttons and peeled back my Victoria's Secret bra. I fell backward into my chair, and she followed me down, lips on my nip. Her hands slid down my sides to the bottom of my skirt and slipped underneath, pushing the hem north to discover I had gone commando.

"Glad to know some things don't change," she hummed, sinking between my legs.

I locked up tight, but Fay remembered the combination, her knowing fingers tracing my dewy furrows, burrowing deep. At the same time, she sweet-talked my clit, which should have known better. I meant to push her away but instead pulled her closer. No, no, no! I couldn't let her find it, couldn't let her take it away; it was mine now, my bonus, I deserved it!

Ah, but she knew exactly where to excavate—she was my ex, after all. She dug through layer after sweaty layer, uncovering all my buried treasure and slowly drawing it up. Noisy trickles slipped through my clenched teeth until the stream became a torrent that burst into a flood, sweeping everything—my senses, my breath, the photos of a disapproving Dot on my desk—out to sea.

Fay stayed with it until she made sure I was thoroughly drained. Then she fell back on her ass and looked up like the mischievous sprite she was. "Wow, so *that's* where it was. I should have known you were good at this safekeeping thing."

I watched her get up to go. "What? Wait! You can't just do this and go! Jesus, what about *me*?"

Fay stopped at the door. "Sorry, hon, I got my heart, but I didn't see yours anywhere. If I ever come across it, though, I'll tell it to go right home, promise."

And then she was gone, leaving me there with my hair disheveled, a boob hanging out, and my skirt tucked up in my waistband.

Holly poked her head in, eyes widening more if that was at all possible. "Um, it's 10:05…" OOB

RED LIGHTS AND ROUGH TONGUES

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Edited by Amber Dawn & Trish Kelly

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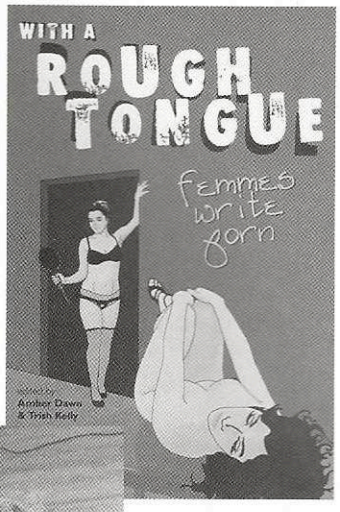

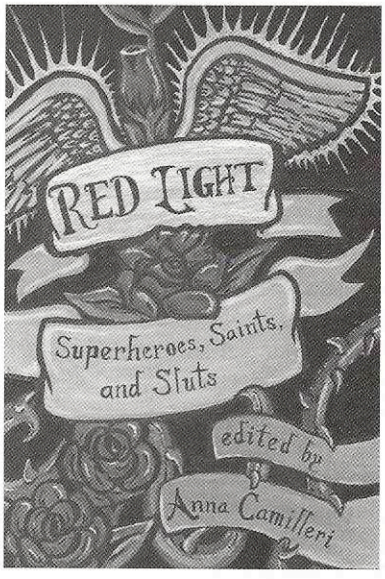

RED LIGHT
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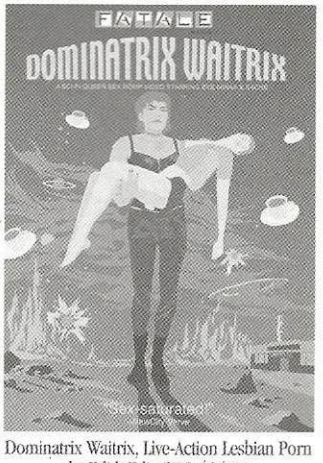

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Sex on the Internet

Your Astro-Guide to Finding Your Niche on the Web

Illustration
by Rosemary VanDeuren

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Capricorn, it's no secret. Everybody knows you goats have a conservative streak the size of the Milky Way—especially when it comes to other people knowing your freaky business. Online sex shops were created for perverted prudes like yourself. No more soiling your leather boots on the sticky floors of adult bookshops, no more walking into the feminist sex shop and seeing it's staffed by everyone you've had a crush on in the past six months. Nope, you can buy those anal beads from the comfort of your home, in total anonymity! Viva the modern world.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Aquarius, you fools love your porn. You also like your high-speed internet. But like Virgo, you have too much time on your brain and can fall into dystopic fantasies of the government tracking your every move. And frankly, with your revolutionary leanings, we can't say you don't have a right to be worried. But don't bother trying to access your favorite skin sites via a fake account on a computer at the public library; they don't let you go to dirty places. Face your fears and join that pervy site you've been drooling over.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

We think we've run into you on the internet, Pisces. Aren't you that eighteen-year-old girl with gigantic boobs and flawless skin who has sucked off the entire football team but is still a virgin? Or maybe you're that leather daddy typing in all caps about cock-and-ball torture? Yes, we know—you are both of them. You Pisces revel in your ability to identity-shift on the internet; it's the perfect repository for your rich imagination. We suggest creating a screen

name to match every fleeting fantasy so that you can gauge your mood, figure out who you are, and set off to get virtually laid.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Aries, you are so *now*. As in, gimme what I want, *now*! Internet porn, especially sites that offer dirty chat rooms or messaging, can give you ram-heads the illusion of real-time sex, perfect for your instant-gratification needs. If you don't already have eight million, get yourself a membership at a pervy site featuring the folks and activities that suit your freaky fancy.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Taurus, let's be honest. As at home in your hot bods as you people are, you're more likely to be running a porn site than getting bent over the back of a toilet for the pleasure of an anonymous viewing public. Yep, you bulls are well grounded in the material world and oh so well suited for business. Add to this your sensual and sophisticated Venus influence and you're poised to create a website that's as gorgeous as it is lucrative. Get to work!

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Gemini, haven't you heard? The internet means never having to say goodbye. That's right, when you've gotten your rocks off or have simply gotten bored with the idle sex chatter of your stranger of the moment, you can just hit a button and be gone. It's like your dream come true! The promise of an easy exit is not the only reason we see you trolling chat rooms for virtual tricks: brainy Geminis love their nouns and verbs, so get typing.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Cancer, if there was a sign that governed over the unfortunate web phenomena known as the blog, it would be you crafty crabbies. You folks take to the blog in a deep way: you're looking for a life partner, and what better way to let the world know what you're all about than by sending out a steady stream of all your innermost thoughts and daily activities? You're a one-woman matchmaking site! Express yourself, and up the chances of hooking it up in true U-Haul style.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Leo, you big cats love to be the object of desire, but you're not always up for the burden of knowing you're the object of desire. There's so much to concern yourself with—reciprocity, emotions, boundaries. It can leave a love object mentally exhausted. Enter the web cam! Thanks to the magic of the internet, you exhibitionists can bask in the knowledge that others are jerking off to your divine form without getting tarnished by their sticky paws or embarrassing emotions. Awesome!

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Virgo, not to be paranoid, but how do we know you're really who you say you are? Well, on the internet, we don't. And isn't that the whole point of the internet, the ability to create aliases to shield yourself from your exes, your friends, and the government? Virgos are purists, and the mind of a purist is sick and twisted, as are the websites you like to anonymously visit. Medical-fetish sites, plushies, adult babies, feeders, whatever. You're not the only freak in town, but if it really feels like you are, by all means keep your secret email account and phony profile and get scrolling.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct 22)

Libra, as a child of Venus, the planet on a permanent Hawaiian vacation, you are straight-up lazy. And what better way for a lazybones to put herself out there in the dating world than craigslist. Gone are the bars with their faint whiff of vomit, gone is the social anxiety that plagues you when you enter a discotheque. Nope, you just encapsulate your wit and charm into a little personal ad and kick back on the clock while the responses pour in. Good job!

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Scorpio, not only do you have more internet porn memberships than anyone else in the zodiac, you are also easily the most likely to open all those pop-up porn sites that flare up on your screen whenever you Google something with the word "lesbian" in it. And we all know why this is true: you're a porn addict. Why not? You're already an intensity junkie, attend Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous meetings, and have god knows whatever other vices. Well, we'd rather have you hooked on internet porn than online gaming!

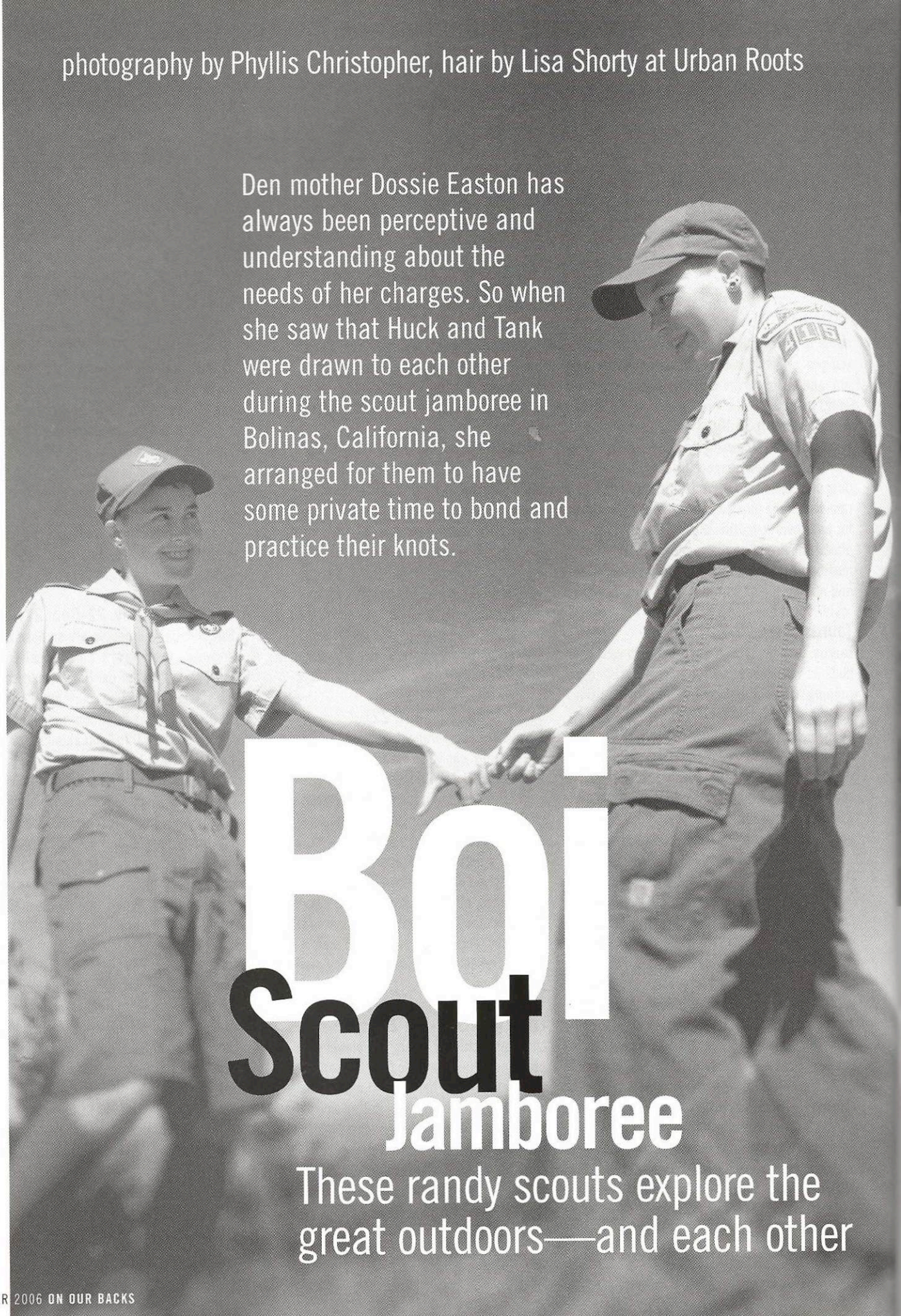
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Sagittarius, you people are so darn altruistic. You can't even have a normal, self-serving sex life like the rest of us. Nope, you'd schtup a lot easier if you knew your carnal pleasure was improving and educating the masses. This is why we think you should start your own porn site. Not, like Taurus, to make some dough; for you archers, it's all about the revolution. Whose naked bodies are you not seeing enough of on the web? Scam yourself a digital camera and start taking pictures of your grubby friends with their fists lodged up each other's orifices. You'll feel like a cultural hero, and who knows, you might make some spare change in the process. OOB

Double Team disclaimer: This is sun-sign astrology! It has its limits. For the real scoop on amour and perversion, visit your local astrologer and check out the Venus (romance) and Mars (lust) of yourself and the fool you've set your sights on.

Award-winning writer Michelle Tea and intuitive counselor Jessica Lanyadoo have been fraternizing with fate together for the past six years. Call Lanyadoo for an astrology or tarot reading at (415) 336-8354. Write to Double Team at lovedoubleteam@hotmail.com.

photography by Phyllis Christopher, hair by Lisa Shorty at Urban Roots

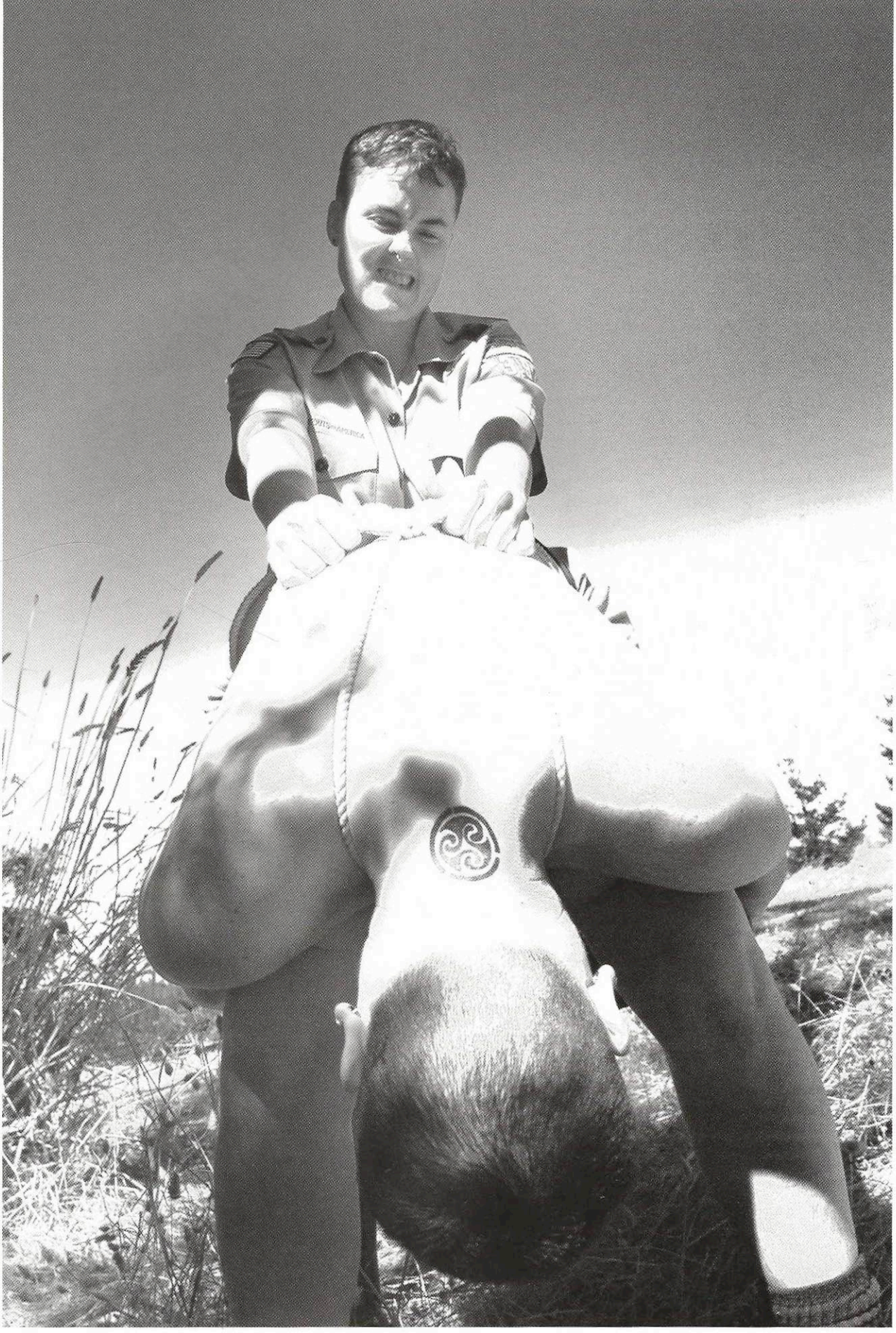


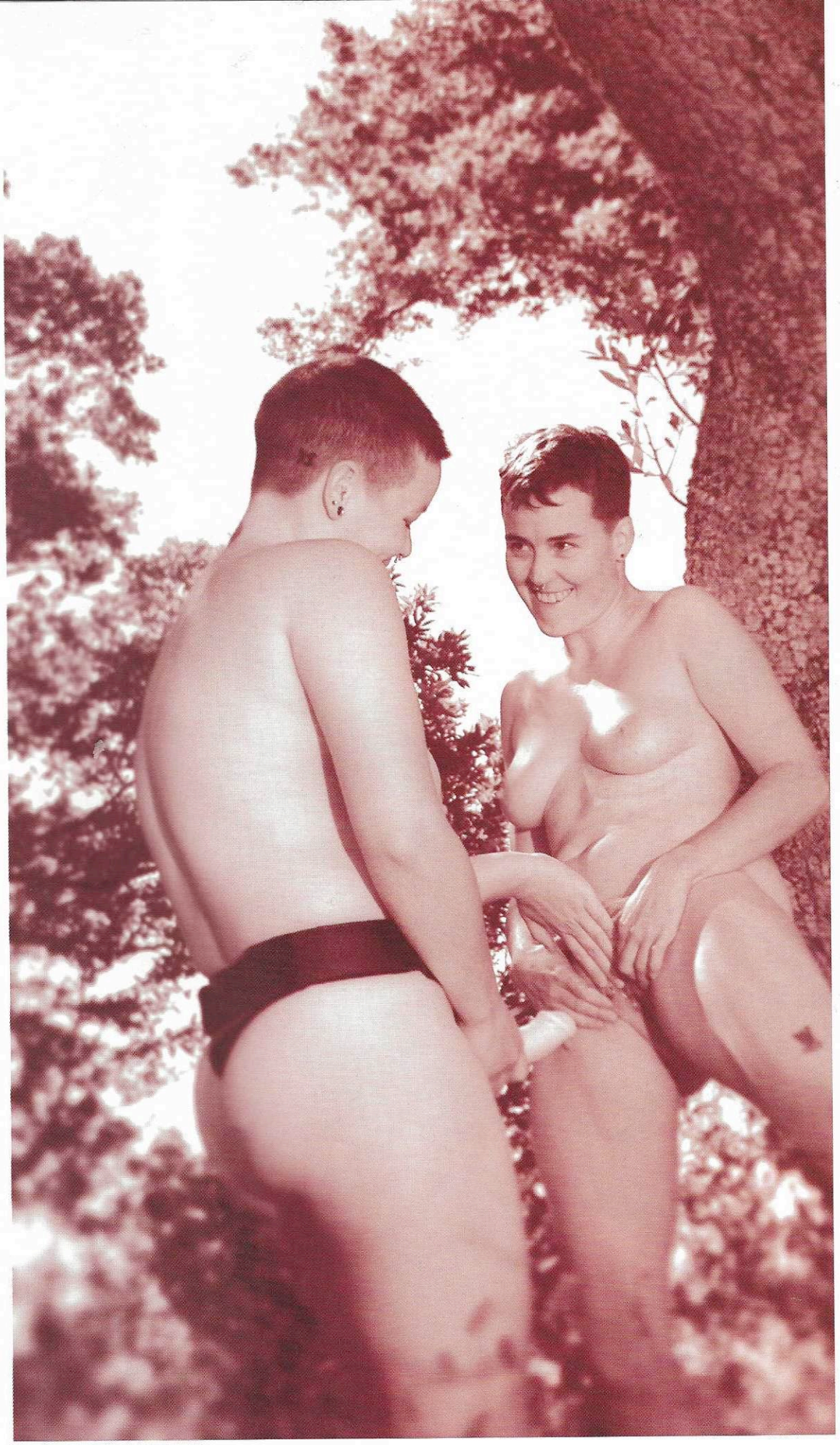
Den mother Dossie Easton has always been perceptive and understanding about the needs of her charges. So when she saw that Huck and Tank were drawn to each other during the scout jamboree in Bolinas, California, she arranged for them to have some private time to bond and practice their knots.

Boi Scout Jamboree

These randy scouts explore the great outdoors—and each other

models: Huck and Tank





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www.crimsonphoenix.org

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www.erosboutique.com

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www.pleasureplace.com

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www.purplepassion.com

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www.romantasy.com

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www.sh-womenstore.com

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www.spartacusleathers.com

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www.stockroom.com

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www.stormyleather.com

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SEX ON THE WEB

www.allsexguide.com

www.altsex.org

www.askamy.net

www.bondage.com

www.susiebright.com

www.cleansheets.com

www.cleispress.com

www.cyberdyke.net

www.dykeplanet.com

www.erotica-readers.com

www.femina.com

www.hercurve.com

www.houseochicks.com

www.janesguide.com

www.kinkygurl.com

www.lesbiansexmafia.org

www.libidomag.com

www.nla-i.com (National Leather Association)

www.nerve.com

www.nofauxxx.com

www.queernet.org

www.retroraunch.com

www.scarletletters.com

www.sexysappho.com

www.siecus.org (Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S.)

www.sexuality.org (Society for Human Sexuality)

www.tinynibbles.com (Violet Blue)

www.puckerup.com (Tristan Taormino)

www.io.com/~wwwomen/sexuality/index.html (Web by Women for Women)

SEXUALITY RESOURCES

American Social Health Association
(800) 971-8500

Centers for Disease Control National AIDS Hotline
(800) 342-AIDS
Spanish (800) 344-7432
Hearing-impaired
(800) 243-7889
www.cdc.gov

Domestic Violence Hotline
(800) 799-SAFE

HIV/AIDS Teen Hotline
(800) 440-TEEN

Los Angeles Sex Education Resources (213) 486-4421

National Herpes Hotline
(919) 361-8488

National STD Hotline
(800) 227-8922

Planned Parenthood
(800) 230-PLAN
www.plannedparenthood.org

RAINN (Rape Abuse and Incest National Network)
(800) 656-HOPE

San Francisco Sex Information
(877) 472-7374
(415) 989-7374
www.sfsi.org

Seattle Sex Information
(206) 328-7711

INFORMATIONAL WEB SITES

(Many of the sites listed under Shopping have informational pages too.)

Alternate Sources
www.alternate.com

Andrea Nemerson's site for human sexuality
www.sfbg.com/asc

Annie Sprinkle
www.anniesprinkle.org

Body Electric School
www.bodyelectric.org

Coalition for Positive Sexuality www.positive.org

Columbia University Information Site
www.goaskalice.columbia.edu

Federation of Feminist Women's Health Centers
www.fwhc.org

Gloria G. Brame's SM site
http://gloria-brame.com

Human Awareness Institute
www.hai.org

Dr. Patti Briton
www.yoursexcoach.com

Safer Sex Resource
www.safersex.org

Sexual Health Info Center
www.sexhealth.com

Sexual Health Network
www.sexualhealth.com

The Sex Institute
www.sexquest.com

compiled by Kristy Papka and Tina Sogliuzzo

DECEMBER 2005

December 2-3
Conference of Kink
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
www.vancouverdungeon.com/calendar.html

December 3
Torture Garden Erotic Ball
Athens, Greece
www.torturegarden.com

December 4
London Fetish Fair
London, United Kingdom
www.londonfetishfair.co.uk

December 4
San Francisco Leather Forum Holiday Party
San Francisco, California
www.sfleathercalendar.org

December 4
Pervy Xmas Party
Manchester, United Kingdom
www.smdykes.org.uk

December 8
La Nuit Demonia 6 Annual Fetish Night Paris, France
www.nuitdemonia.com

December 10-12
Catacombs
Rome, Italy
www.lcroma.com

December 10
Society of Janus Munch and Social
San Francisco, California
www.soj.org/calendar.html

December 10
The Clinic
Amsterdam, Netherlands
www.clinicparty.com/index2.html

December 10
Sin City Fetish Night
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
www.gothic.bc.ca/sincity

December 10
VI Fetish Party
Boston, Massachusetts
www.clubvibes.com/events/view.asp?id=30546

December 10
LARAWW Holiday Party
Los Angeles, California
www.laraww.org/calendar.html

December 11
Pervertible Craft Day
New York, New York
www.lesbiansexmafia.org

December 11
Lady Thorne's SM Flea
San Francisco, California
www.smflea.com

December 11
Femme Domme Social
San Diego, California
www.clubxsd.org

December 13
Daddy/girl Discussion Group
San Diego, California
www.clubxsd.org

December 15
Good Vibrations Holiday Ball
San Francisco, California
www.goodvibes.com

December 17
Mother City Queer Costume Party
Cape Town, South Africa
www.mcqp.co.za

December 17
Lair De Sade's Unfettered
Los Angeles, California
www.lairdesade.com

December 17
Mixed Open Play Party
Placentia, California
www.drkdesyre.com/meetppl/socal.html

December 31
Saints and Sinners Erotic Fancy Dress Ball
Melbourne, Australia
www.saintsandsinnersball.com

JANUARY 2006

January 7
2006 AVN Awards Show
Las Vegas, Nevada
www.avnawards.com

January 8
Femme Domme Social
San Diego, California
www.clubxsd.org

January 8-13
Smoldering Words: Erotic Writing with Mitzi Szereto
Big Sur, California
www.esalen.org

January 12-15
Taboo Sex Show
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
canwestshows.com/sexshow/index.htm

January 13-16
Wicked Womyn
Seattle, Washington
www.wickedwomyn.com

January 14
Sin City Fetish Night
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
www.gothic.bc.ca/sincity

January 17
Daddy/girl Discussion Group
San Diego, California
www.clubxsd.org

January 20-22
Southwest Leather Conference
Phoenix, Arizona
www.southwestleather.org

January 20-February 12
Midsumma 2006
Melbourne, Australia
www.midsumma.org.au

January 27-29
Fetish Fair Fleamarket
Mansfield, Massachusetts
www.NELAonline.org/fff.html

FEBRUARY 2006

February 3-4
Heart of America Leather Weekend
Kansas City, Missouri
www.hoaleather.com

February 4-March 4
Sydney Mardi Gras Festival
Sydney, Australia
www.mardigras.org.au

February 11
Naturist Waterworld
Stoke-on-Trent, UK
www.firebird.demon.co.uk/waterworld

February 11
Sin City Fetish Night
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
www.gothic.bc.ca/sincity

February 12
Femme Domme Social
San Diego, California
www.clubxsd.org

February 17-19
Mr. and Ms. Philadelphia Leather
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
www.theleatherjournal.com

February 17-20
Pantheon of Leather XVI Community Service Awards
Chicago, Illinois
www.mastertaino.com/Events.htm

February 17-19
Lupercalia MMVI
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
www.lupercalia-edmonton.com

February 18
Pantheon of Leather 2006
Chicago, Illinois
www.pantheonofleather.com

February 19
Bang 4 the Buck: Women's Sex/Play Party
AIDS Lifecycle Fundraiser
Seattle, Washington
www.fetishdiva.com

February 21
Daddy/girl Discussion Group
San Diego, California
www.clubxsd.org

February 20-21
Libido Events: Classes with Midori
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
www.libidoevents.com

February 23-March 1
Carnival in Sitges
Sitges, Spain
www.sitges.com/carnaval

February 24-26
South Plains Leatherfest: International Master/Slave Weekend
Dallas, Texas
www.southplainsleatherfest.com

February 24-28
Gay Mardi Gras
New Orleans, Louisiana
www.gaymardigras.com

February 25
SM Dykes Play Party
Manchester, United Kingdom
www.smdykes.org.uk

February TBA
Kinky Karnival
Portland, Oregon
www.blackoutleather.org

MARCH 2006

March 24-26
2006 Seattle Erotic Art Festival
Seattle, Washington
www.seattleerotic.org/festival.php

Heather Corrina

Are you plugged in?

Take this quiz to find out if your PC is connected to your PC muscle.

1. What kind of computer do you prefer?
a. A desktop—my lap needs to be accessible
b. A laptop—so I can take it to bed
c. A handheld—so portable, I can even perch it on the edge of the bathtub!

2. Your favorite sexy site is:
a. Nerve.com
b. Zenporn.com
c. Cyberdyke.net

3. The key to good online chat is:
a. being descriptive and creative
b. swapping photos as well as dirty talk
c. knowing how to type with one hand

4. You love your cell phone because:
a. the ringtone is "Get Ur Freak On"
b. it really vibrates
c. its camera captured all the details of last night's orgy

5. Your definition of multitasking is:
a. cell phone, IM, email, and streaming video all at once
b. chatting and coming at the same time
c. blogging while kegeling

6. When you're in the mood for porn, you:
a. fire up your favorite file-sharing tool
b. scour the web for torrents
c. text your favorite chat buddy and ask her to turn on her webcam

7. Which phrase best describes your relationship with your inbox?
a. I check my email more often than I masturbate.
b. I check my email more often than I think about sex.
c. I am unable to distinguish email from sex.

8. Give yourself one point for each thought that has occurred to you:
__ "If only my vibrator had a USB plug...."
__ "Why can't my speech-recognition software process my orgasmic gasps?"
__ "I bet there's a way to control my nipple clamps with my mouse...."
__ "Why can't I have two webcams: one high and one low?"
__ "Someday my virtual-reality gear will come...."

9. You haven't had sex in weeks because:
a. your broadband/DSL is flaky
b. your carpal tunnel is flaring up
c. your "F" key is mysteriously sticky

10. Think back to those days when you first discovered the internet. Which phrase best describes that time?
a. It was definitely pre-Firefox.
b. Everyone was still stuck with AOL.
c. Porn was only in plain text!

11. Online, gender is:
a. fluid
b. irrelevant
c. far less important than Mbps

12. What's your record for consecutive hours online?
a. Four or so
b. There was that day I called in sick... so at least eight.
c. How many hours are there in a week?

13. Your typing speed is:
a. faster than anyone else's at your office
b. greatly enhanced by your ergonomic keyboard and slanting keyboard tray
c. enormously improved when the woman on the other side of the chat window types "fffffffahhhhhhhhkkkkkkk"

14. Your favorite smiley in Yahoo Messenger is:
a. the kissy one
b. the one that's smirking, like you do when you've just been pinged
c. the secret mooning one that has to be installed separately

15. The best thing about smutty chat is:
a. bed head doesn't matter
b. you can do it in four windows at once
c. every once in a while, you find someone who's willing to type while you play

16. Your blog is:
a. rather revealing
b. X-rated
c. banned in seven countries

17. Slash fanfic is:
a. great when you're having a dry spell
b. amazing when it's well written
c. more essential than breathing

18. How many email accounts do you have?
a. one for work and one for play
b. enough to keep them guessing
c. well... see these shortcuts covering the desktop?

19. You know it's been a good night when you:
a. have added six contacts to your messenger list
b. have no feeling left in your fingertips
c. need to wipe down your office chair

20. Give yourself one point for each term that flips your switch:
__ RSS
__ MUD
__ Wi-Fi
__ listserv
__ Friendster
__ IRC
__ booble
__ keystroke
__ full-screen

Scoring:

Give yourself one point for each "a" answer, two points for each "b," and three points for each "c." Don't forget to count one point for each answer in questions 8 and 20!

The newbie (20–35 points): Your typing speed is stellar, and you definitely know how to multitask. But you'll have to make a quantum leap if you really want to feel the online spark!

The hacker (36–51 points): In your world, DOS stands for digitally outrageous sex—and you've mastered the art of electronic encounters. Any day now, you'll merge with your motherboard.

The digital diva (52 points and up): The matrix is your field: you've truly jacked in (and jacked off). How many keyboards have you melted? Your cyber-partners are eternally grateful!

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